

## The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

JACKSON MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1979

Volume CIII, Number 40

In One Month

# Mississippi Churches Give One Million Dollars To CP

Mississippi Baptists had their first million-dollar-month in history in October, when Cooperative Program receipts for missions were \$1,018,812, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The October gifts for this year were \$322,543 above the missions gifts for the same month of last year. That is an increase of 46 percent. But while October had the largest total gifts in history, it was not the largest percentage increase for the year. That distinction

belongs to January with 48.8 percent.

When the new monthly record was established in October it meant that the four largest months in Cooperative giving in Mississippi have been in 1979. The highest total for any month before this year was the \$878,401 in August of last year. This year, however, four months have gone above \$900,000. January established a new record with \$991,875. Then other months including October have had higher receipts than had ever been recorded before this year. May's receipts were \$933,982, and the August total was \$979,804, Kelly noted.

### Total Gifts

Total gifts for the year thus far have been \$8,353,348. This is an increase of \$1,082,818 over the same period of last year. The total missions budget for the year is \$10 million. That would mean that the pro rata portion for 10 months would be \$8,333,333. Thus the budget income for the year for missions causes is \$20,015 ahead of the budget figure for the 10-month's period, Kelly pointed out.

For the year thus far there has been a 14.9 percent increase in giving for missions as compared with the same period of last year, Kelly said.

"This is a thrilling example of the dedication to the missions task that is apparent on the part of Mississippi Baptists," Kelly said. "Mississippi Baptists have attained two new plateaus this year in giving to missions causes — first to go over the \$900,000 mark in January and now to exceed \$1 million in October," he added. "After the \$900,000 level was reached there were three additional months in which that figure was surpassed. Surely the same will be true for the \$1 million plateau as Baptists in Mississippi continue to be under the load in the Bold Mission Thrust effort to provide a witness of the gospel of Christ to the entire world," Kelly declared.

The Cooperative Program is the Southern Baptist method of financing missions and missions support operations in the state, across the nation, and around the world through voluntary offerings.



### Million-Dollar Month

Art Nelson, seated left, and Earl Kelly, seated right, hold the October Cooperative Program check from Liberty Baptist Church in Liberty that pushed missions gifts from the churches for the month over the \$1 million mark for the first time in history. Nelson is business manager for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Kelly is executive secretary-treasurer. Standing left is John Alexander, director of the Department of Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion; and standing right is Guy Henderson, consultant in the department.

## Letters Contain Errors In Messenger Numbers

A computer foul-up sent a number of letters to Mississippi Baptist churches with incorrect information on the number of messengers allowable at the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Several letters were sent to churches indicating that only one messenger is allowable at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson, Nov. 13-15.

Actually, the MBC constitution allows a minimum of one messenger per church. Many churches notified in the computer-letter are qualified to send more than one messenger.

The constitution states in Article III, Section 2. "Each such church shall be entitled to one messenger for the first hundred, or fraction thereof, of its membership, and one messenger for each additional one hundred

members, or major fraction thereof, but no church shall be entitled to more than ten messengers.

This means that a church with 49 members would be allowed one messenger; one with 351 members would get 4 messengers; and one with 1,500 members would get 10 messengers.

Please check this constitutional note against the letter received by the church to make sure your church sends the full number of allowable messengers to the convention.

The cards should be filled out before the convention and brought to the convention in proper order so that there will be a minimum of confusion, said Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

## FMB Seeks Help For Passage Of Foreign Income Exemption

WASHINGTON (BP) — A Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board executive warned a Senate subcommittee that the denomination's ability to respond to tragic world situations such as that of Cambodian refugees "will be crippled" unless Congress passes legislation to restore the tax-exemption of missionaries' salaries.

J. Winston Crawley, director of the overseas division of the Foreign Mission Board, told the Senate subcommittee on taxation and debt management that Southern Baptists have poured more than \$750,000 over the past three to four years into caring for Cambodian refugees who are now escaping by the hundreds of thousands into neighboring Thailand.

"This type of operation will be crippled," he said, unless a bill is passed by Congress to undo the damage done last year with passage of the Foreign Earned Income Act. The Foreign Mission Board recently stepped up its lobbying effort to restore an exemption from taxation to missionaries and employees of other non-profit organizations with overseas operations when such employees earn under \$20,000 annually.

Board members Joe McKeever, from Mississippi, and John Alley, from Louisiana and Lynn Clayton, editor of the Louisiana Baptist Message, went to Washington for two days of meetings with Sen. Russell B. Long, D-La., chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee, and others, to seek missionary tax relief.

In his testimony, Crawley gave full support to S. 1703, a bill introduced last June by Sen. John H. Chafee, R-R.I. Crawley noted that "Southern Baptist missionaries are engaged in a wide variety of benevolent programs, including sanitation and public health, medical ministries, schools, literacy courses, community development centers, children's homes, agricultural centers." He also cited the Foreign Mission Board's efforts to battle world hunger, to provide disaster relief, and to meet the needs of refugees.

Crawley also emphasized three economic factors which presently work against U.S.-based organizations doing benevolent work overseas: the income tax many employees of such groups already pay in the countries where they work; inflation; and the steady decline of the American dollar.

The Foreign Mission Board alone will be faced with the prospect of paying approximately \$1 million in missionaries' tax for 1979 unless a bill like Chafee's passes. The measure is given a good chance of passage, largely because Chafee has succeeded in lining up some impressive co-sponsors, including Senator Long, considered to be the most influential member of the Senate on money bills.

In the House of Representatives a bill similar to Chafee's, H.R. 5730, has been introduced by Rep. Barber B. Conable, R-N.Y. Like Chafee a Republican, Conable is presently trying to

line up the support of influential Democrats on the House Committee on Ways and Means, the panel which will eventually have to pass the bill before it can reach the House floor.

Appearing with Crawley is appealing for passage of Chafee's Senate bill were Louis Samia, executive director of CARE; Monsignor Andrew P. Landi of Catholic Relief Services; A. Colin McClung of the International Agricultural Development Service; and Vernon Larson of the Association of U. S. University Directors of International Agricultural Programs.

## Southeastern Seminary Plans "Authority" Meet

WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP) — Trustees of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary voted to hold a Conference on Biblical Authority, elected Thomas Henry Graves of Lake Park, Fla., assistant professor of philosophy of religion, and promoted W. Robert Spinks to assistant to vice president for financial development.

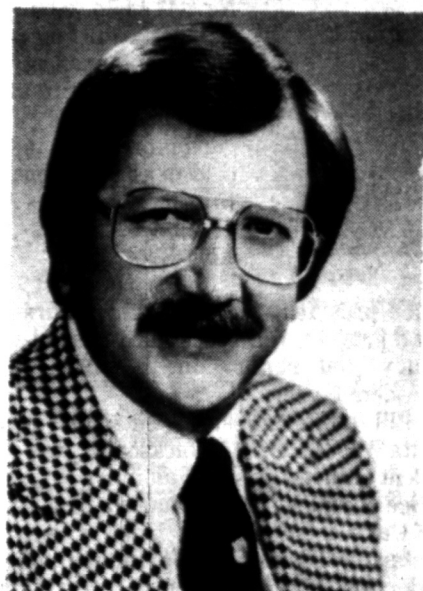
The Conference on Biblical Authority will be held on the seminary campus January 29-30, 1980. Featured speakers will include Herschel H. Hobbs, former pastor of the First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, Okla., and a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Hobbs chaired the convention's committee which drafted the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message Statement, which serves as a doctrinal guideline for all the convention's agencies and boards.

The conference will also include a presentation on biblical study by Donald E. Cook, professor of New Testament at Southeastern; an open dialogue session; and a closing sermon by W. Randall Lolley, president of the seminary.

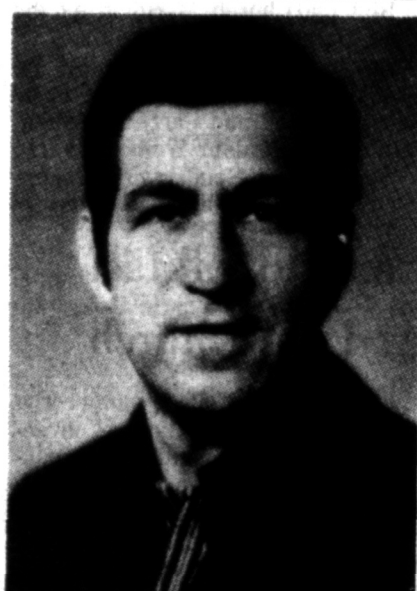
Time shown on ABC affiliates will vary in different areas.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, was elected president of the SBC at the Houston meeting last June. Bennett succeeded the recently retired Porter W. Routh, Aug. 1, 1979.

The two executives appeared Sept. 23 on the NBC television special, "The Thrust Toward 2000," which, as is the Nov. 11 showing of "Directions," was produced in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.



Garrison



Raymick

### Brotherhood Rally

Gene Garrison, left, and Jim Raymick, right, will be featured during the conference portion of the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Rally, Nov. 12, at Parkway Baptist Church in Jackson. Garrison is pastor of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City. Raymick is minister of music at Parkway. The conference, which begins at 7:30 p.m., includes missions testimonies by a number of volunteer groups.

## January Bible Study Preview

Ralph Murray of Nashville, Tenn., and Liz Young of Hattiesburg will teach the January Bible Study Preview on Nov. 20, according to Billy Hudgens, consultant, Baptist Sunday School Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Murray



Young

Study sessions will be at Blue Mountain College, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and closing at 3 p.m.

Murray will lead the pastors' study of Ephesians: God's New People, January Bible study book for adults. Miss Young will lead the study for youth workers or those who will be teaching Young Leaders: Church Alive! (a study of Ephesians) during the January Bible Study emphasis.

Murray has served on the staff of the Sunday School Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, as editor, Bible content specialist, and now as a consultant for Bible conferences. Previously he was pastor and for a time served as associate professor, University of Tennessee School of Religion.

Miss Young is youth director at First Church, Hattiesburg. A native of Corinth, she is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and Southwestern Seminary.

Lunch will be served at the college cafeteria, compliments of Blue Mountain College. However, reservations need to be made with the Sunday School Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.



### Disaster Unit On Display

The Disaster Relief Mobile Unit will move to Jackson Monday, November 12, for the Brotherhood Rally at Parkway Baptist Church. It will be on display there before and after the Rally. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 13th and 14th, it will be located at First Baptist Church. All attending the Mississippi Baptist Convention are invited to stop by and tour the unit. Refreshments will be served.

## Missions "Hotline" Now Free For Most

RICHMOND, Va. — It used to cost the caller, but now Foreign Missions Hotline — bringing the latest in Southern Baptist overseas missions information — will be free for most Southern Baptists.

The Nov. 14 through Dec. 14 three-minute telephone recording of current news and urgent prayer requests for missions around the world has a toll-free number — (800) 446-2725. Callers in Virginia, Alaska and Hawaii, however, who cannot use the WATS line, must dial (804) 355-6581 and pay for a station-to-station call.

During the three-minute message, churches or individuals will receive up-to-the-minute information and specific needs which they can pray about for missionaries and mission work. Recorded messages will change each Wednesday morning during the five-week period.

Callers may use the toll-free number from one minute past midnight Nov. 14 (Eastern Standard Time) through midnight Dec. 14.

## Convention Child Care Will Be Available At FBC

Preschool care will be available for children, ages birth through five, at First Baptist Church, Jackson, during the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The nursery is located on the street level off President Street. Signs point the way.

Hours will be listed in the Daily Bulletin to be distributed during the convention.

The following are procedures to be followed:

1. Register, giving the names of the child or children, the parents and the church.

2. Be sure all belongings are labeled.

3. In the case of infants, leave a time schedule for feeding.

4. Leave the children no earlier than 20 minutes before the beginning of a session and pick them up no later than 15 minutes after the close of the sessions.

5. Children may stay through the noon meal if parents provide food — baby food or sack lunch. The Preschool staff will serve the children the noon meal only. Children must be picked up for the supper meal, as the Preschool will close between 5 and 6:30 p.m.



# Christians Attempt Perilous Escape

PART II  
By Tim Nicholas

**Synopsis of Part I:** Do Tan Minh and his wife Ai Hang had determined to escape Communist-dominated Vietnam. They had to keep their Christianity a secret and worked diligently toward getting out. A plan to get out by boat along with some friends died when the fuel they had cached disappeared. Did the authorities know their plan?

"Later we learned that one of the others had sold the fuel to a fisherman because his wife had given birth and they were in difficult financial circumstance," said Minh, looking back on the events that led him into the open sea. "At least the authorities did not know of our plan."

But he and his wife came to hope and dream again. "We prayed and asked God to give us an opportunity to escape," he said.

Minh continued to play the role of "good citizen," accepting labor, attending meetings of "reeducation," and talking about the "very good policy of Socialism."

Ai Hang managed to add to the little family's meager savings with a bit of seamstress work. Minh developed his fishing work and bought a 21 foot long, four foot wide boat with a five-horsepower motor.

## Close to Sea

But he was expected by the government to catch a minimum of 2.5 tons of fish a year. Still, they wanted to stay close to the sea. While waiting for official government approval to be registered as fishermen, Minh and Ai Hang bought some extra fuel and stored it under their floor — not necessarily to escape with, but in case the approval was delayed so they could continue fishing.

Minh, his fishing interrupted by 15 days of forced labor away from the village — a common occurrence, according to Minh.

Minh missed one escape possibility when a group left his area while he was doing 15 days of forced labor far from his town. He backed out of another plot because of intense quarreling among the plotters.

"We lived like fish in a fishbowl," said Minh, "we could not adapt to our present circumstances and our future looked dark and uncertain. . . . We promised God that we would accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior in public and to join a church and be baptized if He would allow us to survive and land in a free country."

Then, on June 13, 1978, Minh was warned that the police knew of the plot he had backed out of and that his name would probably be connected with the plotters. That night after dinner, while listening to "Source of Life," a Christian radio program beamed from Man-



Do Tan Minh and his family live in Clarksdale.

ila, a friend came by and asked Minh to put out the light. The friend had just been ordered back to a reeducation camp and that Minh would receive the same order the next morning. The friend pleaded for the four of them to escape in Minh's boat that very night.

"I turned to my wife with a question, 'What do you think about this problem?' said Minh. 'She answered without any doubt, 'It's up to you. Our daughter and I will follow you to anywhere, although we may die.'"

A quick gathering of food, a little sugar and three cans of milk for little Ai Van, and six cans of fuel, plus some water constituted the packing.

Then the family and their friend, without any word to their respective families, pushed the tiny boat out into the water without notice from any but some children who ignored them.

## Daring Voyage

"We were starting on a daring voyage," said Minh, "We had a small compass, a simple map of the world and three flashlights to use in plotting our course and for signalling in the night." It was the beginning of an eight day, 800 mile trip across the open sea.

Minh kept a diary of the trip. The first day they signaled some ships that watch back through telescopes but failed to stop for them. The third day, it rains and two ships approach, but turn away at the last minute.

An engine spring breaks the fourth and Minh's wife and daughter are ill. The fifth, a large oil ship ignores them. The sea is rough and only the sail pulls them along. They bail water and the friend replaces the engine spring with one from the flashlight.

No motor oil is left on the sixth day and the food and water is gone. "The time and distance from the Philippines is unknown to us," writes Minh. Their prayers continue and a ship stops. Sailors wave and laugh when the group

tells them they are going to the Philippines. They say their government will not allow them to board, but the sailors supply motor oil, food and water, plus new directions toward the Philippines. "What a wonderful afternoon it is," writes Minh. "We take a very good dinner with bread, canned meats, and canned drinks. Ai Hang is very happy and she tolerates the good food. Ai Van is fascinated with her first apple. The sea is quiet. I thank God for his love to us."

Another spring breaks the seventh day. Water leaks into the old boat. The spring is replaced from another flashlight, but the sea is so rough, they lose their direction in the night.

Before daylight, though, they see lights ahead. By dawn, they see mountains in the distance. Filipino fishermen point the way to the harbor and they land after eight days on the sea in Bataan.

Now they were placed in a refugee camp. Minh and his family parted company with their friend.

Just after arriving in Manila, Minh met Jimmy and Paulette Kellum, Southern Baptist missionaries from Clarksdale, Mississippi. Kellum was trying to find the whereabouts of former friends from when he had worked in Vietnam. "He invited us to go to the International Baptist Church," said Minh, who was happy to find a fellow Christian who could speak his native language, "so I could describe my feelings," he said. Minh and

Ai Hang remembered their promise to God. They were baptized there and were allowed some measure of freedom from the refugee camp.

In their 11 months when friends gave them money, they could go out to a movie. They went to church every Sunday, and church friends built them a ramshackle house from packing crates outside the former hospital that served as housing for 2,000 refugees.

The couple continued their study of the English language, American culture and customs. "But we think about our relatives, and suffering country and suffering people," said Minh.

Kellum told people back home about the Minhs and in February 1979, Oakhurst Baptist Church in Clarksdale, voted to sponsor the family. It took several months for the paperwork to be finished — and get fouled up. Minh ended up on a sponsorship list of a Lutheran church in St. Louis. Rather than waiting for the paperwork, they came on to the States and after staying with a Lutheran family two days, arrived by bus in Clarksdale.

They arrived in the North Mississippi town June 9. A house had been provided by a deacon. Minh was helped to obtain a job repairing and calibrating water meters for the city water and light department. He's taking a night electronics course at Coahoma Junior College. And a couple of women from the church are teaching Minh and Ai Hang English.

Danny Faye Sullivan, wife of the pastor, Glenn Sullivan, is teaching Minh at night. And Ceresee Teel is helping Ai Hang twice a week with English, using Scripture as a text. She's also taught Ai Hang some survival English. Before she went to a doctor for a visit, Ceresee taught her the words she would need to know to talk with the doctor.

They were given a pounding, the house was filled with furniture on loan, and the committee that works with the sponsorship, continues to look in on the family.

The three attend Oakhurst Baptist Church, Ai Hang even helps on Wednesdays with Mission Friends.

Said Minh, "The people of Mississippi should think about the Vietnamese refugees and their circumstances and hardships. I call upon churches in Mississippi to sponsor, especially Christian families in refugee camps."

Said Ceresee Teel, "We loved them before they ever got here."

## Foreign Board Reappoints Fosters

The Foreign Mission Board in its September meeting approved a recommendation from the Middle America and Caribbean Committee that Mr. and Mrs. James A. Foster, formerly missionaries in the Philippines (Southeast Asia), be reappointed to serve in Surinam.

The Fosters have been living in Natchez where he served as pastor of Briar Avenue Church. They have moved to Jackson, where they will be until they leave for Surinam around the first of the year.

## New Members Sought

### Group Hopes To "Diminish The Abuse Of Alcohol, Drugs"

A non-denominational group dedicated to the purpose of "diminishing the abuse of alcohol and other drugs in . . . Mississippi" is seeking to broaden its base by enlarging its membership.

It is the Mississippi Foundation for Alcohol and Narcotics Education Inc. The president of the Board of Directors of the foundations is William B. Lipscomb.

The four-phase purpose of the foundation is listed as is presented below:

Promoting and encouraging responsible educational activities and programs which provide factual, current information on the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

Cooperating with and disseminating the findings of other groups and organizations engaged in responsible research and educational projects concerning the physical and sociological effects stemming from the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

Promoting a better understanding of the problems of individuals and families who are suffering from alcoholism and chemical drug dependency.

To oppose all efforts by any segment of society, either political or economic, to promote the consumption of alcohol by encouraging personal, group, or legislative action best suited to the

particular promotional efforts.

Interested individuals may become members by sending their names, addresses, and telephone numbers to the foundation at Box 119, Jackson, Miss. 39205.



Garrison



Pollard



Barry



Dehoney

## Preaching Conference In December

James Barry of the Sunday School Board will lead a Preaching Conference, Dec. 10-11 at Richland Baptist Church, Jackson.

The conference, sponsored by the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is designed for all persons who preach, or plan to preach.

Part of the conference will include viewing of video tapes of several Southern Baptist preachers who will discuss some aspect of preaching.

Frank Pollard, pastor of Jackson's First Baptist Church, will discuss in person "Centrality of Preaching," "Biblical Preaching for our Day," and "Preaching That Meets Needs of People."

Harold Bryson, professor of preach-



Bryson



Bisagno

ing, New Orleans Seminary, will speak on "The Sermon Idea and Structure," "Introductions, Transitions, and Conclusions," "The Use of Sermon Illustrations," and "New Developments in Preaching."

Barry, Sunday School Board consultant in the church administration department, will offer an overview to the conference, and will speak on "Planning Your Preaching."

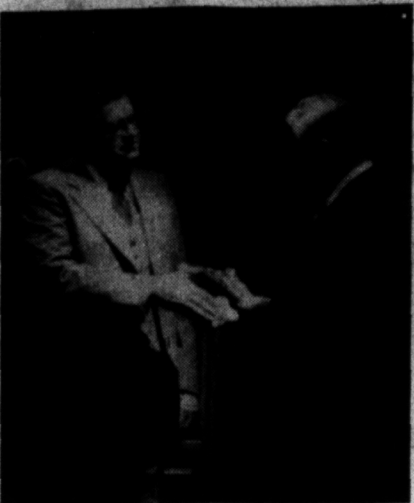
Video tape sessions include talks by John Bisagno, Wayne Dehoney, and Gene Garrison.

Mike Smith, minister of music at Richland Baptist Church, will lead music for the conference.

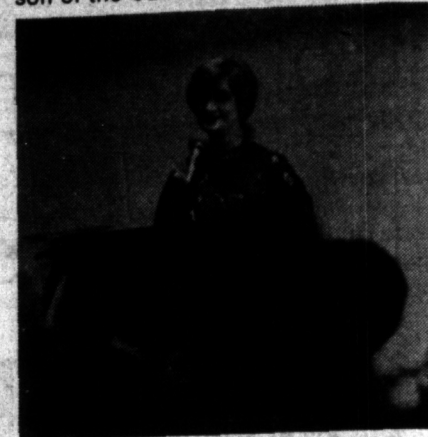
The meeting begins with registration at 1:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 10, and concludes at 3:30 the following day. Cost of the conference is \$10 per person. For further information, contact Leon Emery, Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205, or phone him at 354-3704.

## BIRTHDAY PRAYER CALENDAR For MKs

Nov. 11—Claude Smith (Brazil), Mississippi College  
Nov. 16—Julie Bowers (Nigeria), Mississippi University for Women  
Nov. 29—Lisa Lynn Horne, Mississippi Delta Junior College



Jimmy Cutrell, left, minister of music at First Church, Gulfport, sang during the banquet honoring his parents. He is a son of the Cutrells.



Jan King, right, daughter of the Cutrells, played some of her father's favorite songs during the banquet last week in his honor.

## Cutrells Honored

John Alexander, left, hands a book of letters to Clarence Cutrell during a banquet honoring Mr. and Mrs. Cutrell last week at Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson. Cutrell will retire at the end of this year from the position of consultant in the Department of Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion. Alexander is director of the department. Cutrell's ministry spanned 41 years and included the pastorates of First Church, Calhoun City; Trinity Church, Biloxi; and First Church, Eupora, and director of missions in Grenada-Yalobusha and Rankin associations.

## Kennedy Will Speak at N.O. Luncheon

The New Orleans Seminary Alumni Association will have its annual meeting during the Mississippi State Baptist Convention on Wednesday, Nov. 14, at noon in the chapel dining room of First Church, Jackson.

Representing the seminary will be J. Hardee Kennedy, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew and vice-president for academic affairs.

Tickets for the luncheon will be \$5.00 and may be purchased during the Convention from the seminary booth at First Baptist Church until Wednesday at 10 a.m. Robert Self, vice-president of the State Alumni has announced that since the Chapel dining area seats only 180 persons — tickets will be honored on a first come-first sold basis.

The luncheon will feature presentation of plans for a two-million-dollar campaign during the years, 1979-1982. The funds will be used for a student center and endowment for the seminary.

Presiding over the luncheon will be Elmo McLaurin, minister of education at Highland Church, Meridian and the State Alumni president for 1979.

The music will be presented by Franklin Denham, minister of music from Highland and Carl Bridgeman, minister of music from Calvary, Meridian. Gene Henderson of Columbus is in charge of arrangements.

## Carey Breakfast At First Church

William Carey College alumni who attend the Mississippi Baptist Convention are invited to a continental breakfast on Wednesday morning, Nov. 14, at First Church, Jackson, according to Richard Davis of Hattiesburg, president of the alumni association.

The complimentary breakfast will be in the Friendship Center, beginning at 8 a.m. A brief musical and devotional period is planned.

## Southern Luncheon Will Be Nov. 14, Baptist Building

Southern Seminary Alumni's annual luncheon in connection with the state Baptist convention will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 14, at the Sky Room, Baptist Building, at 1 p.m. or immediately following the Wednesday morning session of the convention.

Walter Shurden, a Mississippian, will be the seminary representative.

Tickets will cost \$4. They may be purchased at the seminary booth in the exhibit hall at First Baptist Church until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 13. No tickets will be available at the door.

## Southwestern Alumni Will Hear Newport

The annual gathering of Southwestern Seminary friends and former students in Mississippi has been set for Nov. 14 in Jackson. A 12:30 p.m. luncheon is planned at the First Baptist Church.

The meeting is held in conjunction with the state convention of Mississippi Baptists.

John Newport, vice president for academic affairs and provost, will represent the seminary and report on the 1978-79 academic year.

Bill Ballou, minister of education at Alta Woods church in Jackson, is president of the Mississippi alumni group. Vice president is Tom Hudson, pastor of Oak Forest church in Jackson. Secretary is Tommy Echols, minister of education at Eastside church in Pearl.

Tickets for the luncheon are available by contacting Ballou, 168 Colonial Dr., Jackson, 39204 or during the convention from the seminary booth.

## Supper For BMC Ministers' Alumni

A supper for Blue Mountain Ministers' Alumni will be held at Calvary Church, Jackson, on Nov. 13 at 5:30 p.m. Kermit McGregor, pastor, Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, will be the speaker. Price of tickets is \$5.

## Abortion Foes Win A Point

WASHINGTON (BP) — Abortion foes appear to have won another point in the ongoing battle to stop federal funding of abortion.

In a compromise worked out between the Senate and House of Representatives in 1977, federal funding for abortions has been allowed when the life of the mother is endangered, in the case of rape or incest, or if "severe and longlasting physical health damage" to the mother would result from the pregnancy.

This year, after weeks of bitter negotiating, the Senate agreed to drop the provision allowing funding for abortions when the mother would suffer lasting damage to her health.



## Career Guidance Seminar

Alice Magill, left of center, led a small group of young people in a career guidance seminar at William Carey College recently. Mrs. Magill, a career guidance specialist with the Sunday School Board, told the group that family members are being "torn asunder by the work they do." She said many mates today do not have the same purpose in life. Guy Henderson, right, Mississippi Baptist stewardship consultant, said that once a person gets the right view of the world, of man, and of God, "we're ready to hear the will of God and respond." The meeting was sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department.

## Before You Move

1. Attach old mailing label in the space below or print your old address, and account number.

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date you plan to move \_\_\_\_\_

2. Print your new address here.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

3. Mail to: The Baptist Record  
Circulation  
Box 530  
Jackson, Miss. 39205

## Interpretation For The Deaf

The two evening sessions of the Mississippi Baptist Convention will offer interpretation for the deaf. At both the Tuesday and Wednesday evening sessions of the convention at First Baptist Church, Jackson, Nov. 14 and Nov. 15, qualified interpreters will be interpreting the convention into sign language.



# Convention Mini-Sessions

Thursday, November 8, 1979

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Mini-sessions for the Mississippi Baptist Convention begin at 3:15 p.m., Nov. 14. The four mini-sessions include specialized information about four different areas of work within the Mississippi Baptist Convention. One will include administration-related operations of the convention board: Stewardship, Business Office, Church-Minister

Relations, and the Baptist Record. One will include program area-related offices: Sunday School, Church Training, Church Music, Evangelism, Assembly, Church Administration and Architecture. Missions will be the focus of a mini-session: Woman's Missionary Union, Cooperative Missions, Brotherhood, and Student Work will

be a part of that session. And the institutions and agencies of the convention will have a joint session to talk about their work. These include the Baptist Foundation, Board of Ministerial Education, Children's Village, Christian Action Commission, Education Commission, Mississippi College, Clarke College, William Carey College, Blue

Mountain College, and the Baptist Medical Center. Messengers will have to choose from among the four mini-sessions. They should help streamline the convention, offering separate meetings for the specialized work areas of the state convention. On this page are brief synopses of Mini-sessions reports.

## STUDENT WORK

The Department of Student Work will emphasize three areas of its work during the Mini-Session segment of the Mississippi Baptist Convention this year. They are: personnel, programs, and physical property. Included in the presentation will be a statistical review of the highlights for 1978-79 session with special emphasis being given to missions and international students. Special help will be made available for churches with college students as well as visuals highlighting the work of the department.

## BROTHERHOOD

Missionary education is a vital function of the mission study fellowship for Baptist Men and chapter meetings for Royal Ambassadors. The organizational units provide the base through which we discover, choose and equip ourselves for mission activities. Several Brotherhood directors will share during the Mini-Session how they maintain vitality in the organizational units. Since the dedication of the disaster mobile unit on November 13, 1978, the Brotherhood Department has been involved in four major natural disasters. There are always many opportunities for Christians to minister, but never more apparent than during a time of disaster. Through the sharing of hot meals, the distribution of tracts, the lending of an ear for counseling... all these expressions and more, are geared to communicate positive witness of Christian love. The Mini-Session will help Brotherhood focus on the many opportunities that await those who want to become involved in participation missions. Several testimonies will depict the excitement of personal involvement. We invite those in the Mini-Session to view a brief presentation on Central Hills so that they will know more about its usefulness for their church in the years ahead.

## PROGRAM AREA

One of the mini-sessions will be sponsored by six areas of work in the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The Church Administration/Pastoral Ministries Department, Church Training Department, Evangelism Department, Church Music Department, Sunday School Department, Gulfshore, and the Church Architecture Office will combine to present an informal and varied program. Involved in the program will be the Mississippi Singing Churchmen, a brass quartet, slide presentations on the facilities and programs of Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, and a short film on "The Church of the 21st Century." Also included will be a vocal solo by Martha Bacon of Clinton, a Growth Spiral Testimony and announcement of a celebration of the 200th anniversary of the

## COOPERATIVE MISSIONS

The Cooperative Missions Department is just what its name suggests. We are responsible for cooperation with associations — in setting up associational missions programs; and with associations and churches in establishing new churches, or establishing ministries to special groups of people. We are also conscious of the need for ministries to underprivileged people and to people who are in prison. We give a strong emphasis to the rural church and have some plans for some special studies next year for bivocational pastors and rural churches in cooperation with the professor of Sociology at Mississippi College — Dr. N. W. Carpenter. The Language Missions area has as a goal setting up a ministry to the deaf within 50 miles of every deaf person in the state. Included in our language work is the International Ministry carried on by Paul Vandercook on the Coast. The Church Extension area includes help in starting new churches and church-type missions, as well as home Bible studies and small pockets of people where there could be a Bible study set up. We feel that there is a real need for a ministry to the families of the inmates at our penal institutions. We are hoping to work out a plan whereby we will have some information on the needs and location of the families of the inmates; and we hope in time to share something of how we can get the information to a church in the vicinity. We work closely with the directors of missions in trying to help sharpen their skills while they are serving on the field. We have trained people who will be used to go out and teach Literacy Workshops, in order that they might teach people to teach others how to read. We hope to involve more and more volunteers in mission work.

## BAPTIST RECORD

The BAPTIST RECORD is an institution of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and has been instructed by the convention, through its constitution, to be the official journal for the convention and the Convention Board. Thus it feels its main purpose is to aid the churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in their mission of witnessing to the world. The BAPTIST RECORD seeks to accomplish this purpose by working directly with the members of the churches and seeking to provide for them the information they need to be better able to serve their churches. In addition to the publication of the BAPTIST RECORD, the staff of the BAPTIST RECORD is also involved in the public relations efforts of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Convention Board. In this respect the staff is in touch regularly with 25 daily newspapers, 100 weekly newspapers, 12 television stations, and 100 radio stations. It also prepares a weekly radio program of religious news in Mississippi called News Scope, which is distributed to 60 stations.

## CHURCH RELATIONS

The Department of Church Minister Relations was brought into being to be a friend to both ministers and churches. Our total agenda consists of magnifying the Lord through supporting churches and ministers as they seek to proclaim the Good News. The dimensions of this support were greatly increased last year when the Annuity Board Representative was made a part of our team. Our goal for 1980 is to "lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes" as we support churches and ministers through information, consultation and inspiration.

## CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION

In this election year, your Commission has encouraged participation in the democratic process and encouraged associations to sponsor legislative information meetings before the 1980 legislature meets. This year in the area of pornography, three laws were passed to protect the exploitation of minors by regulating display and sexual abuse through porno movies. The Christian Action Commission appointed a special committee to study the gambling problem in Mississippi and consequently is suggesting that January 13 be observed as Anti-Gambling Education Sunday in the churches. Pastors are being mailed materials for use in this educational effort. John Rankin, an independent research analyst, has brought up to

## WMU

Staff members of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union will be on hand at the mini-convention to have fellowship with those who attend, to share information about WMU activities, to give highlights of what's happening at Camp Garaywa, and to distribute material related to WMU emphases. Come visit with the WMU staff and be updated on missions education activities and emphases!

## BUSINESS OFFICE

The convention board's business is committed to preserving financial integrity, as spoken of in II Cor. 8:20-21. How? By means of modern up-to-date accounting and auditing principles and procedures; Realistic program budgeting and budget control techniques; The latest computer technology available; A complete outside audit by the best public accounting firm available on a consistent basis. The Business Office provides accurate cost control and timely and pertinent financial information to your Convention, Convention Board, the Convention Board staff, and our churches.

## STEWARDSHIP

The purpose of the stewardship presentation will be to review the findings of a recent study of the problem of the non-giving church family. Twenty percent of the church families gave eighty percent of the church income, thirty percent of the families gave twenty percent of the income, and fifty percent of the families gave nothing to the church. Why is this tragic picture a part of Baptist church life? Can anything be done to improve the picture? Is a new approach called for in trying to seriously reduce the number of church families who go year after year and contribute absolutely nothing to the cause of Christ through the church?

## THE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

The formal report of The Baptist Children's Village to the Convention will include statistics, relating to the number of children under care, not unlike those reported for each of the past two years. Our residential facilities in Jackson, in Tate County and in New Albany, continue to operate at capacity or near-capacity during public school sessions. It presently appears that we will extend care and custody to more than 400 different children in 1979, as we did in both 1978 and 1977. During our fiscal year, 1978-1979 we have afforded Mississippi Baptists maximum information about The Village and its boys and girls through our popular monthly news bulletin, "The Village View," published in the first edition of THE BAPTIST RECORD each month. Our Tate County, "country-life campus," near Independence has been assigned to the resident, administrative supervision of T. Deane Rodgers, our assistant executive director resulting in substantial

forward strides toward the quality, Christian effort on that installation which we planned. The Christian Education Department, acting in concert with student missionaries and other selected volunteers has made attractive and effective contributions to the moral and spiritual up-lift of Village wards. A proposed expansion of Village facilities into another area of the state is under consideration with the Convention Board. Although approximately 500 of the Convention-affiliated Baptist churches had no part in designated, money support of our mission with children, according to the latest records for a complete calendar year which are available; we are grateful to report that The Village is a mission ministry of Mississippi Baptist churches in fact, as in name, because the same records indicate that 57.3% of our cash support originated with Mississippi Baptist churches, as organized groups.

## HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission has the responsibility of collecting information about the history of Mississippi Baptists and of making it available to researchers. This year, to increase interest in this process the Commission has sponsored a workshop on "Oral History and Church History Writing," and has provided complimentary memberships in the Southern Baptist Historical Society for each Director of Associational Missions. The Boyd Historical Shelter four miles South of Fayette on Highway 61 and the Benjamin Whitfield Cemetery ten miles from Clinton on Highway 49 North are maintained as places of historical in-

terest to Baptists. Mrs. R. A. McLe-more, Executive Secretary of the Commission has completed the HISTORY OF MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE which was begun by her husband and she now has other interesting projects in the offing. Miss Edwina Robinson has indexed the BAPTIST RECORD through June of 1979. This index and the other resources of the Commission make it possible for us to be of assistance to church historians and other researchers. The Commission welcomes visitors and encourages churches and individuals to help us collect historical information for preservation in this collection.

## MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Mississippi College closed the books on her 153rd session, the 128th as a Baptist institution, on May 31, 1979, with Dr. Lewis Nobles completing his eleventh year as president. Enrollment data showed an increase on both the graduate and undergraduate levels with 3,881 individuals registered for credit courses — off campus and on campus. In addition 1,705 individuals were involved in non-credit activities sponsored by the Division of Continuing Education. Some 200 were involved in instructional activities with 116 of these as fulltime faculty members. The College completed its 47th consecutive year of operation in the black

with a total operational budget of approximately \$7.5 million. Of every dollar 72% came from tuition; 18% from gifts and grants (including MBC support); 4% from endowment and 6% from auxiliary enterprises and other sources. Expenditures per dollar were as follows: 51% on instruction, 26% on administrative and student services, 5% on student financial aid; 9% on plant operations, and 9% for academic support — library and other. The year was highlighted by the announcement of a \$4.5 million downtown Jackson facility as a permanent home for the Mississippi College School of Law. The gift was made by United Gas Pipe Line Company of Houston, Texas.

## WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE

William Carey College has ended the 1978-79 fiscal year with a balanced budget, according to the July auditor's report. Such has been the tradition at Carey for a quarter century. Looking forward to a continuation of that tradition, President Ralph Noonkester and the Board of Trustees have reactivated the college's Planning Commission. Beginning this fall, the commission will study the various facets of the college in order to determine effective and efficient means for providing a quality Christian education. Enrollment figures for 1978-79 show that the college served 3236 different students who were enrolled in credit and non-

credit courses, both on the college's three campuses and at numerous regional sites. At commencement exercises in May and August, some 420 students were graduated from the college's five schools. Of these, 231 received baccalaureate degrees, 176 earned master's degrees, and 13 were granted specialist in education degrees. The 1979-80 Fall registration report has been completed and shows that 2631 different students have enrolled at Carey. A major event in the life of the college has been the leadership transition in the School of Music, with Dr. John G. Morgan succeeding Dr. Donald Winters as dean.

## BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

The completion of the 1979 Summer Session on August 10 brought to a close one of Blue Mountain College's most successful years — successful both in number and in quality of students. There were 572 students enrolled for credit in the various courses and programs during the year. Of the total enrolled, 79% were Southern Baptists and 80% were Mississippians. Successful programs were initiated to meet the specific needs and interests of those in the community and in Northeast Mississippi. The college utilized the May Term to provide productive and interesting learning experiences. In cooperation with the Church Administration/Pastoral Ministries Department of the Missis-

ssippi Baptist Convention, the college offered its first Church Administration Workshop during the second week of May. There were 45 ministers registered for the workshop. In addition to the Christian impact Blue Mountain College had on the students who were enrolled or who attended one of the campus, 13 students were selected to serve as student summer missionaries. Blue Mountain College ranked fifteenth in the number of students serving on the mission field and first in the percent of the student body actively engaged in the summer missions program. God is doing great things in the lives of the people on the Blue Mountain College campus, and we are grateful for His leadership and for the support of Mississippi Baptists.

## BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

The Board of Ministerial Education is an elected arm of the convention charged with the responsibility of aiding ministerial students to secure a college education. The board performs the following functions. It disburses the funds allotted to ministerial education by the Mississippi Baptist Convention. These funds are disbursed to ministerial students on the basis of individual needs. It solicits, receives, and disburses funds from individuals or institutions wishing to contribute to the education of ministerial students. It renders numerous small services in assisting students in securing work, living accommodations and in the field of general counseling. In the past school year the board has given aid to 61 men at Mississippi College, 21 at Clarke College, 48 at Blue Mountain College, and 35 at William Carey College. In addition to financial aid, the

local campus representatives on the board, give invaluable advice, guidance and assistance, both in the area of education and in the area of ministry. The board members' concern for a broader understanding of mission work among our ministers has led them to require students receiving ministerial aid, to take a course introduction to Baptist Work, a practical study of denominational life awareness prepared by the Cooperative Missions Department of the Convention. The board's function is a task which we see as one which should enhance the total education of the total minister to function as God's men in our society. We enjoy a rapport with the colleges and the Education Commission which makes it possible for us to make a real contribution to the total education of the ministers of our convention.

## Board's Bible Publishing Firm Moved To Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — The A. J. Holman Company, a Bible publishing company purchased by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board May 1, 1979, will move to Nashville from Philadelphia, effective Nov. 1. The total inventory of the Holman Company was shipped to Nashville in May, according to James W. Clark, executive vice president of the Sunday School Board. "The move of the Holman Company to Nashville is a logical one," Clark said, "since many of the Holman functions already are being performed here." In addition to the inventory, all new production ordered since May 1 has been shipped directly to the Sunday School Board's warehouse and orders from dealers have been received and processed in Nashville since early May. Accounts receivable also are already maintained at the board. Clark said the move "will shorten the lines of communication, centralize necessary records, improve decision making and speed up customer service." "Key personnel who have served Holman will remain with the Sunday

Sunday School by the Sunday School Department. Plus there will be a demonstration of the "TELL Machine" and a preview of the upcoming Evangelism-Bible Conference by the Evangelism Department, and graphic demonstrations of the work of the Church Training Department. The church administration presentation will include information on plans to prepare 2,000 deacons and wives for ministry, involve 850 church leaders and committees in a training-planning experience, equip 1,340 pastors, staff, and spouses in "lead, proclaim and care," and involve 1,640 deacons and wives in a cassette training or study course event. The program finishes with a presentation from a senior adult choir from Jackson. School Board following the move to Nashville," Clark explained. "C. E. Andrew, president of the A. J. Holman Company, will remain in Philadelphia until at least Dec. 31 to complete work on two major Holman publishing projects in the Philadelphia area." Andrew and two sales persons will join the board. Eight clerical personnel from Holman's original staff of 11 persons have elected to seek employment in the Philadelphia area, a board spokesman said. Records, plates, negatives, files, contracts and any other paperwork related to the business, plus a collection of old Bibles, are involved in the move on Nov. 1. Clark added that as current contracts expire, Holman book publishing will be assumed by Broadman Press, making the Holman Company solely responsible for Bible publishing at the Sunday School Board. The A. J. Holman Company, the oldest American Bible publisher, was acquired May 1, 1979 by the Sunday School Board from the Philadelphia-based division of the J. B. Lippincott Co. for \$2.3 million.

## Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Nov. 12 — Brotherhood Rally, Parkway Church, Jackson 5:30 Banquet/7:30-9:00 p.m. Conference
- Nov. 13-15 — State Baptist Convention
- Nov. 17 — Studiact Workshop, Camp Garaywa, Clinton, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (WMU)

## THE EDUCATION COMMISSION

The Education Commission met seven times this past year including two meetings with Clarke College's Board of Trustees. We heard reports from college presidents relative to faculty, students, finances, curriculum, etc. We have been made aware more than ever of the effect of spiraling inflation. It is only because of the increased giving via the Cooperative Program and special gifts that our colleges are able to continue. We are concerned as Commission members, for all colleges, but because of mutual concern over the challenge of declining enrollment and economic pressures, the Commission and Clarke College's Board of Trustees plan to jointly recommend to the Mississippi Baptist Convention "that a complete indepth study of all possible alternatives concerning the future of Clarke College be made by the Educational Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and that said study and its suggestions be presented to the Education Commission of The Mississippi Baptist Convention and Clarke College's Trustees jointly assembled and that this study be completed by June 30, 1980, and that a report be made to The Mis-

issippi Baptist Convention in November, 1980." Two real and critical needs at Clarke College are being addressed in our current planning for this year and we feel that industry, sound planning and execution will produce some satisfactory results. The two areas alluded to are student recruitment and improvement of the financial situations. Additional personnel have been employed to work in these offices and plans have been carefully formulated for both the major financial campaign to be conducted in 1980, and the drive to recruit additional students for the ensuing academic year. Our personnel have attacked these problem areas with intensity, dedication and determination. The organization work for the major financial drive has almost been completed and the recruitment drive has been initiated and is proceeding according to schedule. During the year the implementation of these plans will be more fully realized.



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Clarke College

## Recommendation concerns future

Mississippi Baptists will be called upon during the Mississippi Baptist Convention Nov. 13 to 15 to make a decision relating to the future of Clarke College.

The college trustees and the Christian Education Commission will present a joint recommendation that would call for an objective study of the situation at Clarke by the Christian Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention and would ask the commission to make known its conclusions based on its study.

This joint recommendation to the convention will be presented to the

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board on Monday afternoon before the Convention begins on Tuesday morning.

The discussion of the future of a college is an emotional thing. Its students, its benefactors, its faculty, its trustees, and its friends all have deep feelings for a college.

It must be pointed out that this recommendation is not a search for ways to close the college. Far from it. This is an effort to see if there are ways to enhance the ministry of Clarke College.

With an objective study, of course, there is always the possibility of a negative report; but even that would

not necessarily spell the doom of the college. The future of Clarke College is in the hands of Mississippi Baptists, where it has been and should be. And Mississippi Baptists will determine the future of Clarke College, regardless of the outcome of a study. In order to make a responsible decision, however, Baptists in the state need as much knowledge as they can get. That is what the recommendation being proposed for the state convention is all about. The hope is that the study will provide Baptists with the knowledge necessary; and with that in hand, a decision can be made that will glorify

the Kingdom of God and be a blessing to the convention and the college.

The Christian Education Commission, the trustees of Clarke College, and the administration of the college favor the recommendation: Baptists of Mississippi simply want the very best for their young people in the realm of Christian education. It very well could be that a quality junior college would continue to fit into the pattern of the need for the future just as it has in the past.

Mississippi Baptists will decide at the convention how they want to approach that issue.

## Tax Commission rescinds action

Appreciation is due the State Tax Commission for its action in rescinding the extension of the hours for serving liquor-by-the-drink in Mississippi. In wet areas of the state mixed drinks can be served until midnight. The commission had taken action to extend the hours for serving liquor to 2 a.m. When it met again to approve the minutes of the meeting in which the action was taken, a motion was passed to approve the minutes with the extension of hours deleted. Therefore the hours stay as they are.

The word is that commission member Latrelle Ashley made the motion that resulted in the deletion of the extension section of the minutes. Surely the gratitude of Mississippi Baptists is due each of the commission members for taking this stand.

Last week's Baptist Record carried a statement to the effect that the commission had proposed the extension. Between the time the paper went to press and the time it was received in the homes across the state, the com-

mission rescinded its action. To the members we say, "Thank you." Those who would want to express their appreciation by letter could write the chairman of the commission, Charles R. Brady Jr., and address the letters to him at State Tax Commission, P. O. Box 1033, Jackson 39205. This is a major decision in favor of rationality, and the liquor interests will not be happy with it. The members of the tax commission need the support of those who agree with their action during this time.

An issue still to be settled is the request for a Jackson discotheque owner to make his establishment a resort area. The commission has denied the request already; but he is due a hearing, which is scheduled for Nov. 13.

The ire of the liquor interests over the rescinding of the liquor serving hours will make the commission's job harder when it faces the Nov. 13 issue. They need the support of the people who agree with their conclusion.

### Disaster Relief Unit . . .

## Equipment would aid ministry

Letters of appreciation have continued to come in from the victims of Hurricane Frederic concerning the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief Unit. And well they might, for in the past 14 months the unit has been called on to serve as disaster relief in four areas, and it has served more than 8,500 meals.

meals in Clarksdale.

Immediately following the Easter flood in central Mississippi the unit set up operations on the parking lot of Colonial Heights Church in Jackson and served 21,835 meals. In Pascagoula following Hurricane Frederic the total number of meals was 7,435. The grand total for the 14-month period has been 40,850.

During the year's operation the task force has felt the need for additional equipment for better effectiveness. Rusty Griffin, consultant in the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Brotherhood Department, is the coordinator for the disaster relief unit task

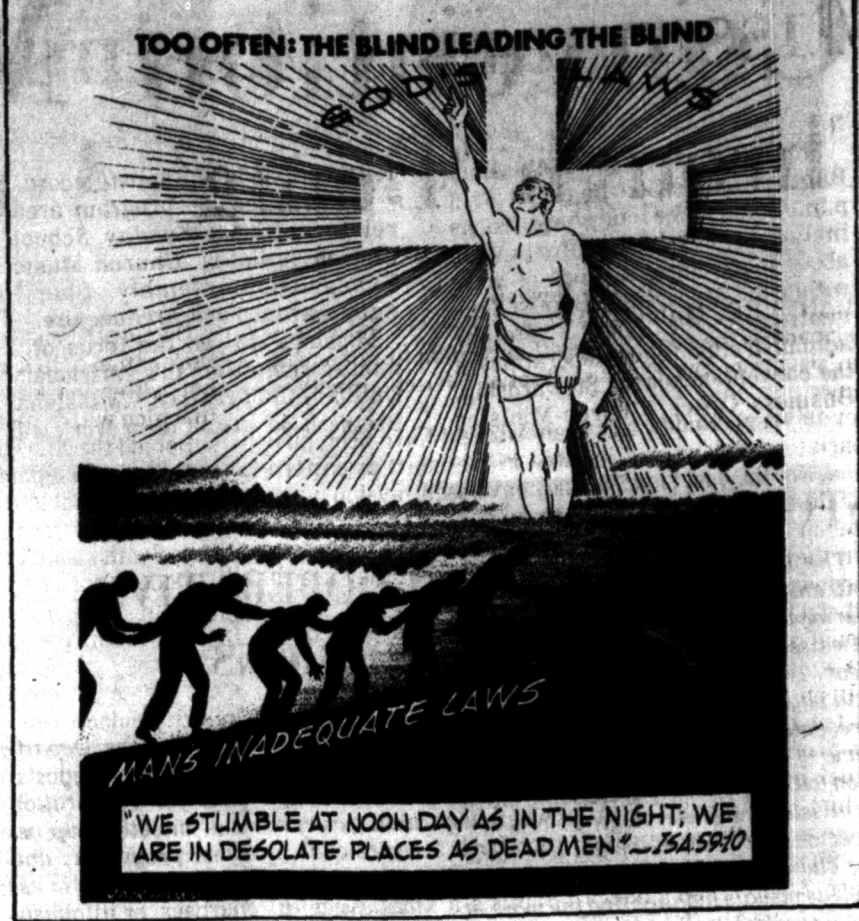
force. He has supplied the following list of desired equipment:

Mobile Unit	
Portable Generator	\$750
Fire Extinguisher	60
Pressure Water Hoses	70
Vent Fans	120
Trash Holders & Bags	110
Public Address System	225
Microwave Oven	350
New Testaments	250
Hand Truck	60
Additional Wiring to Van	200
Miscellaneous	100
Uniforms (Task Force)	300
A 1,000 Gallon Water Trailer with Pump & Hoses	2,300

A Used Travel Trailer (or Motor Home) for Counseling, Task Force and Long-term Recovery 4,500

There is no way that the budget of the Brotherhood Department or the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board can furnish such equipment. It must come from voluntary contributions if it comes.

The Brotherhood Department is the sponsoring agency for the disaster unit. Paul Harrell is director of the department. Anyone who feels he can be of help in this cause could contact either Harrell or Griffin at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



### Guest Opinion

## Another first for Mississippi Baptists

By Guy Henderson, Consultant Stewardship & Cooperative Program Promotion Department

In October gifts from our churches through the Cooperative Program amounted to \$1,018,812.00. This million dollar month is a historic first for Mississippi Baptists. This is a measure of our devotion to the Lord and for His work around the globe.

Just try to visualize all the people who will benefit from this and who would like to say thank you. Think for a moment of

- Pioneer mission workers in the Northwest or Alaska,
- The Christian witness of seamen's ministries and social work,
- 3,000 foreign missionaries in 94 countries,
- Church development workers in our state,
- Directors of missions in our associations,
- The 10,000 students in our

seminaries,  
—Christian educators in our colleges,  
—even the children in our Children's Village.

All of these and many more are saying "thanks."

The Bold Mission Thrust calls for bold giving. Three great facts are beginning to surface. First, we face the greatest demand ever for financial support. Secondly, we have the financial resources and the people to accomplish our task. Thirdly, we can do it, if we want to. It's a matter of priorities. A church that is sharing in this world ministry will be a thriving church and will be blessed of our Lord.

Jesus reminds us that where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. October was a good month as the Baptists in our state backed our mission programs with one million dollars of their treasure. It should be that way for our heart is there.

### Guest Opinion

## Help with a deadly enemy

By C. R. Daley, Editor Western Recorder, Kentucky

People who work around rattlesnakes eventually forget the danger and lose their fear. Yet the snakes are as dangerous and deadly as they ever were and ought to be treated so.

So it seems to me to be the case with alcoholic beverage. It has become so much a part of American society that its deadly effects are more and more ignored. Only when it claims a close friend or family member does its deadly nature impress us.

There are many signs indicating even those once doing bitter battle with the alcoholic beverage industry are being lulled to sleep. Consider Southern Baptists, for example. We once preached total abstinence as absolute virtue but this is heard less and less from Baptist pulpits and classrooms and is more and more reserved for an occasional visiting temperance

speaker. Regular temperance lessons in Baptist Sunday schools have gone by the way and in their place is an occasional reference in regular Sunday school materials to the dangers of alcohol.

Statistics on the evil effects of alcohol are staggering but they no longer arouse much concern. It seems not to bother us that about as many American young people die each day in alcohol related accidents as died each day in the Vietnam War.

Every area of modern life is seriously threatened by alcoholic beverage. It is one of the chief enemies of the American family and is often involved in marriage breakups. The loss in production and man hours of work from drinking is incalculable. A whole army of part time workers is required to fill in on Mondays for those not recovered from weekend drinking.

Very little is said about it but one of the greatest concerns for managers and owners of professional sports

teams is alcoholic beverage. How absurd then that beer advertisements give the impression that truly successful athletes drink and how out of place that one of the main sponsors of televised sports is breweries!

I am no champion of tobacco but I marvel how much this industry has been moved in on while the liquor industry remains almost untouched. It appears to me that while tobacco slays thousands, alcoholic drinks slay tens of thousands.

Churches, of all organizations, have the responsibility to address this widespread social evil. Many pastors and church leaders feel this way but hardly know how to go about addressing the problem.

There is a new organization which offers some hope to help churches. It is not an organization of churches or religious bodies but of outstanding individuals from all churches and all walks of life. It is headed by Owen Cooper, an extremely able Baptist

layman.

This organization is offering clergymen and laymen an unusual opportunity to learn something about what is being done and can be done by churches to meet the dangers of alcohol abuse. This opportunity is a national conference to be held Nov. 26-28 in Indianapolis (see news article on page 5).

The proximity of this conference to Kentucky makes it possible for many of our churches to send at least the pastor and/or one layman to Indianapolis to learn and to bring back specific information on what a church can do.

Remember this is not restricted to Baptists. Some of those participating will not share Baptist convictions on total abstinence but this will not prevent helpful learning from one another.

Those interested can have more information by writing Owen Cooper, Box 355, Yazoo City, MS 39194.

**BRING YOUR LOVED ONES TO CHRIST** by Don Wilkerson (Fleming H. Revell, \$5.95, 121) For those who have a son, daughter, husband, wife, mother, or father, who is an unbeliever, Don Wilkerson has prepared this book. It presents a message of instruction for those who do not know how to go about reaching family members. It will help the reader discover what specific actions to take and what pitfalls to try to avoid.

sacrifice friends, family, and their own peace of mind. This new book was written for those who feel they may be workaholics and for families and friends of such tormented individuals. It deals with underlying causes and practical solutions. It is an authoritative book especially for those who are not sure whether "they work to live or live to work." One chapter is titled, "Around Church, Too—Of All Places!"

**LIVE YOUR FAITH**, by Russell M. McIntire; Pelican Publishing Company, 630 Burmaster Street, Gretna, La. 70053; 167 pages; \$6.95.

This is a collection of inspirational essays touching on every phase of the Christian life. The author is pastor of Oak Park Baptist Church in New Orleans. He has been pastor of First Baptist Church, Clinton; and before his present pastorate, he was vice-president for development at New Orleans Seminary. His 39 years in the ministry have included the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Bogalusa, La.; and he has been interim pastor in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Gulfport.

Among the subjects covered in the book are hope, love of the Christian pilgrimage, Christian growth, the role of the church, and the Bible.

**HOW GREEN IS MY MOUNTAIN** by Ruth Klaasen (InterVarsity, paper, 162 pp., \$3.95) Mark and Ruth Klaasen moved from Canada to the Philippines when he took a job as an entomologist. This is the story of how the heavenly Father worked in their lives—in a culture foreign to their own—so that he could work through them. Struggles with assimilating a new and different culture, failures to communicate with servants and neighbors, questions of conflicting values, difficulties of explaining the gospel—these blend with other problems all Christians may face. Also the book contains vignettes of Filipino and overseas students, local Christians and foreigners from many countries, some of whom find new life and begin to grow in Christ.

**THE WORK TRAP** by Ted W. Engstrom and David J. Juror (Fleming H. Revell, 222 pp., \$7.95) Compulsive working can be consuming habit, as destructive as drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, say the authors. Today's accelerated life-style has caused men and women alike to be so intent on their jobs, so busy with achieving and realizing goals, that they sometimes

**MAKING FRIENDS, KEEPING FRIENDS**, How to Build Bridges Instead of Walls (Doubleday, Galilee Original, 166 pp., \$7.95) The author discusses the art of making and keeping individual warm friendships, with examples from her own life. She says, "We don't just fall into friendship. Becoming friends requires a purposeful effort. It means saying 'I choose to be your friend' and then making that happen."

## Letters To The Editor

### Appreciation due . . .

Editor:

Hurricane Frederic dealt a devastating blow to the central Gulf Coast and especially to Mobile, Alabama. Millions of trees were downed. Thousands of persons were left homeless. Property damages exceed a billion dollars. But, thanks be to God, there were few fatalities as a result of the storm.

We are grateful for the prayers and the labors of Mississippi Baptists on behalf of the people in our area. We deeply appreciate the loads of food which were sent and the work crews which helped clear trees and debris from public streets and private property.

If there are crews skilled in carpentry and electrical work willing to donate time in helping rebuild damaged church buildings and residences we would be pleased to hear from you. Contact Gerald Blackburn, 205-476-

9214. His office coordinates such efforts.

All of Mobile is grateful to you, but the gratitude of Mobile Baptists is even more profound. You gave a moving demonstration of Christian care and a vital witness to our cooperative Baptist efforts.

Grace and peace.  
M. P. Harrison, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Mobile and Coordinator of Southern Baptist and Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief for Mobile County.

M. R. Bradley, Pastor, Westlawn Baptist Church and Coordinator of Disaster Relief for Mobile County.  
Gerald Blackburn, Director of Missions, Mobile Baptist Association.

### Need Crossword Puzzle

Editor:

I am a Sunday School teacher of the adult class at Bethlehem Baptist Church here in Montgomery County. I

enjoy many of your articles in the Baptist Record, especially the features in Scrapbook and Ed North's Sunday School lesson each week. It helps me prepare my own lesson, so I look forward to it. However, I sure do miss the Bible crossword puzzle when it's not included. And so many times recently, it has been missing. Not only is it pleasurable to work, but helps in learning to locate verses of Scripture. I wish you would please try to include it more.

Thank you.  
Elizabeth Laney  
Kilmichael, MS

Thank you. The omission has been due to space problems. — Editor

### Thanks for Help

Editor:

Jackson County Baptist Association

meeting in Annual Session October 16, Southside Baptist Church adopted the following resolution:

Wherefore, Mississippi Baptists, being concerned for the total person, established a disaster unit to minister to people in disaster areas. It was this unit, under the direction of Mr. Rusty Griffin with capable assistance from volunteers from our state, which came to the rescue to the Gulf Coast on Thursday following the arrival of Hurricane Frederic on Wednesday, September 12, 1979.

Therefore be it resolved that we, the Jackson County Baptist Association, go on record expressing our deep appreciation to Mississippi Baptists and the men who guided the operation for the ministry of the Disaster Unit after Hurricane Frederic.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be mailed to the Baptist Record and that our Moderator present this resolution to the Mississippi

Baptist Convention meeting in annual session at the First Baptist Church, Jackson, November 13-15, 1979.

Shirley A. Massey  
Clerk

### Special Birthday

Editor:

We the people of Linn Baptist Church at Daddsboro, MS, are very proud of our older people. The WMU gave a small birthday party for one of our very special people, Tuesday, Oct. 23. The man is Mr. Hose Burrell. He was 88 years old. He has been sick quite some time and can't attend church any more. We love him and his wife Mrs. Lady Burrell who has taught Sunday School at Linn for many years. We served cake and punch.

Mrs. Mavis Lester  
Director of WMU

**The Baptist Record**  
(ISSN-0005-5778)  
515 Mississippi Street  
Jackson, Miss. 39201

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Official Journal of  
The Mississippi Baptist Convention

Bill Causey, President  
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The Baptist Building  
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Gary Holland, Pascagoula; Odson Pickett, Natchez; Lewis Sewell, Oxford; Claude Sutherland, Jackson; Beverly Thum, Meridian; Clarence Wilkinson, Clinton.

Subscriptions \$2.75 a year payable in advance.  
Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.  
Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.  
The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.



# Missionaries Assimilate Through 'Being' Africans

By Jim Newton

BLANTYRE, Malawi (BP) — "They're not really Americans — they're Africans," according to Ruben Nhata, pastor of the Chichiri Baptist Church, Blantyre, Malawi.

For 19 years, Buddy and Jean Albright have been missionaries to Malawi and Zambia in the heart of eastern Africa. For the past 11 years, they have been developing an agricultural demonstration farm and a pastors' training center in the eastern province of Zambia.

But they feel it's not what they do but what they are as missionaries that's important.

Albright has developed a school to help train and equip national pastors for their ministries. He's busy, but is always willing to drop his current project to spend an entire day in an African funeral in the village.

And no matter how big a rush he might be in, he always stops to offer help whenever he passes a broken-down car or truck on the highway. It's this characteristic that enabled him to obtain the 750 acres where his training center and the agricultural demonstration farm are located.

In 1970, the paramount chief of a chain of villages in eastern Zambia had given to Baptists a small piece of property for use by the Baptist mission, but the mission had to get permission from a Zambian rural council committee to use the property.

The chairman of the committee was opposed to Baptist use of the land, Albright learned, but he was never able to get an appointment to see the chairman, even though he tried repeatedly.

Finally one day as Albright waited in the office talking to the secretary, the chairman burst into the room. "He took one look at me and remembered immediately that several months earlier I had stopped and helped him when his car broke down on the highway," Buddy recalled.

As a result, Buddy's request to use 20 acres of land escalated into sudden approval for use of 750 acres of land previously set aside by the British as an "intensive cultivation area" for farming. The property is two miles deep and 3,300 feet wide, fronting the major highway from Petauke to Chipata, Zambia.

The Albrights live on the farm, close to the land they helped clear by hand. Their house has no electricity in the bedrooms — only candlelight. Mrs. Albright cooks over a wood-burning stove in a kitchen reminiscent of rural life in America during pre-depression years.

Outside the house the most prominent feature is a water tank sitting atop a wood-burning fireplace — a homemade hot water heater. Beside it sits an old-time washing machine with a hand-cranked wringer.

Behind the Albright home stands a steel-frame building with walls of elephant grass and a thatched roof. There the pastors' training school meets one week each month. Nearby is a "dormitory" where preachers attending the school can spend the night.

Modern "necessities" are luxury items the Albrights do without. To them, having is not as important as being.

What being means to Buddy and Jean becomes apparent when they go into the villages not far from the farm. They are greeted immediately by scores of Zambians. Children flock around them, grinning and chattering.

As the women of the village approach, there are a few words of greeting, and suddenly the people burst into joyful singing. Clapping their hands and swaying to the music, Jean and the village women join in a welcoming ceremony. Love radiates from their faces.

Buddy hardly looks the part, but he is an authority on cultural anthropology. He hopes to complete work on a doctor of philosophy degree in anthropology at the University of Kentucky while on furlough this year.

He feels strongly that Southern Baptists have not adequately applied anthropology to missions and have not grappled effectively with the problems of white Americans trying to win Africans to Christ.

"The basic problem is that we (Americans) have the wrong grandmothers, and we can't change that," he insists. "What we've got to do is to train and equip Africans to win their own people to Christ."

And that's what he has been trying to do through the pastors' leadership training school. For nine months each year, each Baptist pastor at 20 preaching points in the Petauke area goes to the training center for a week of intensive study taught by Albright.

He has established a similar program for pastors of churches east of Petauke near the Mozambique border. But Albright doesn't like to talk a lot about the training school or what he feels it has accomplished.

To him, the training school is "doing" and he's more concerned about "being" a loving, caring, concerned Christian in the everyday relationships with the people he and Jean obviously love deeply.



## Church Media Workshop

Mrs. Robert Lewis, Columbus, left, presided over sessions of the Church Media Convention and Workshop Oct. 26-27 at the Baptist Building, Jackson. Velma Daniels, center, Florida author, columnist, and television personality, spoke at the convention banquet at First Church, Jackson. Larry Salter, consultant, Sunday School Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, directed the workshop.

The state Church Library Organization elected officers for 1979-80. They are Mrs. C. H. Wood, Louisville, president; Mrs. Charles Stanford, Greenville, vice-president; Mrs. Clyde Day, McComb, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. A. M. Jordan, Jackson, program chairman; Mrs. Eugene Fitts, Corinth, historian; and Mrs. W. D. McWilliams, Clinton, publicity chairman.

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## Revival Dates

Southside, Jackson; Nov. 11-13; Evangelist Eddie Martin; sermon subjects: "Is This the Rapture Generation?"; "Married, And They Lived Miserably Ever After?"; "When A Man Dies Where Does He Go?"; and "Can A Man Once Saved Ever Be Lost Again?"; Rick and Melody Williams, singers from New Mexico, guest soloists and duet team. Melody will feature "Little Danny" who will have a Children's Bible Story time through ventriloquism; Fred Fowler, pastor; Sunday night at 7; week nights at 7:30.

First, Carthage; Nov. 4-11; 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Sunday; each evening at 7; Eddie Martin, evangelist; Rick and Melody Williams, singers and personal workers; J. B. Miller, pastor.

Cliff Temple, Natchez; Nov. 4-7; H. Glen Schilling of Mendenhall, evangelist; Floyd Grice of Bogue Chitto, music evangelist; Bobby R. Davis, pastor.

## Campus Revival

"Christ In You" will be the theme for this year's Mississippi College campus revival scheduled for Nov. 12-14, according to Johnny Hughes of Steens, Evangelistic Committee Chairman.

The evangelist will be Larry Walker, evangelist-at-large, affiliated with the First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.

Serving with Hughes on the campus revival committee are Mark A. McComb, Mathiston, publicity; Tammy Potter, Belzoni, hospitality; James Kinsey, Summerville, Ga., programs and Cindy Malone, Jackson, music.

## SBC CP Is

## Ahead Slightly In October

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — Southern Baptists began the 1979-80 fiscal year with \$4,972,291 in gifts to the national Cooperative Program at the end of October, the first month in the fiscal year.

That amount represents a 3.35 percent increase over the amount given in the first month of the 1978-79 year. Total giving for the month amounted to \$5,729,220, including the undesignated Cooperative Program figure and another \$756,928 in designated contributions. The designated contributions represent a 9.61 percent increase over last October, while the total giving is 4.04 percent ahead.

The Southern Baptist Convention has set a goal of \$71 million for basic operating and capital needs in 1979-80, plus another \$12 million in Bold Mission Thrust challenge funds.

In 1978-79, the national Cooperative Program exceeded the \$64 million basic operating and capital needs budget by only \$165,480. That made only a small dent in the 1978-79 Bold Mission Thrust challenge goal of \$11 million.

New York (EP) — Three national Jewish organizations have denounced the film, "Life of Brian," as "blasphemous, sacrilegious, and an incitement to possible violence." Produced by the British comedy group Monty Python, the film describes a reluctant messiah named Brian who is born on Christmas night. He joins the People's Liberation Front of Judea, attracts thousands of followers, and is finally crucified.

## McCartney Named Oklahoma Editor

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. (BP) — Richard T. McCartney has been elected editor of the Baptist Messenger and director of communications for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, effective Dec. 1.

McCartney, 52, who succeeds Jack Gritz as editor of the state Baptist paper, served a previous period with Oklahoma Baptists, 1958-62, when he was director of public relations.

McCartney currently serves as assistant to the executive director and director of public relations for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, which he joined for a second time in 1977. He also directed public relations for Texas Baptists, 1962-68.

On both occasions in Texas he has served as chief of the Dallas bureau of Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The election of McCartney combines for the first time the roles of editor and communications director. For the past several years, the Oklahoma convention hasn't had a communications department as such. Although communications has been handled by a news writer under the convention's associate executive director, according to executive director Joe Ingram, who has served as interim editor since Gritz was retired by the convention's administrative committee, Sept. 11, after 30 years of service.

A native of Ozark, Ark., McCartney was pastor of churches in Texas, Ok-



Richard McCartney

lahoma and Missouri and spent 12 years in radio and television news, management and sales before first joining Oklahoma Baptists.

Before he joined Texas Baptists for the second time in 1977, he was president of two public relations counseling firms in Oklahoma City: Arthur Davenport Associates, 1968-76, and McCartney & Associates, 1976-77.

McCartney holds the bachelor of arts degree and an honorary doctor of humane letters from John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Ark., and earned the master of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

## Mother Teresa Says Nobel Award Will Buy More Homes For Lepers

CALCUTTA, India (EP) — Mother Teresa of Calcutta, winner of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize, said here that she planned to use the \$190,000 prize money to build more homes for the destitute, "especially for the lepers."

The five-member Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament selected the 69-year-old Albania-born Roman Catholic nun, famed for her work among the poorest of the poor in India and elsewhere throughout the world, from among 56 individuals and organizations nominated.


The award announcement from Oslo, Norway, (Oct. 17) noted that Mother Teresa was not directly involved in the struggle to achieve and maintain peace, but said: "It is not the first time that the Norwegian Nobel Committee has awarded the Peace Prize for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress in the world, which also constitute a threat to peace."

Mother Teresa, who founded the Missionaries of Charity, a women's institute, in 1950, and an allied institute for men, Missionary Brothers of Charity, in 1963, to serve the "poorest of the poor," is the first person to win the

Peace Prize for work connected with religion since the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the black American civil rights leader was honored in 1964.

Mother Teresa's 1,800 sisters and 300 brothers, aided by 120,000 co-workers, serve the sick, poor and social outcasts in Africa, Asia, Europe, and the United States. Her congregations operate schools, dispensaries, youth centers, and orphanages. Some 53,000 lepers are among the patients treated at medical centers.

President Carter, who was among those nominated for the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize, sent a message to Mother Teresa congratulating her for an award that was "richly deserved."



### IMPERIALS

in concert  
**MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE**  
**A. E. Wood Coliseum**  
**Monday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.**  
Tickets \$4 — Special rates for 20 or more. Tickets on sale at Logos Bookstores and Lifeway Bookstore in Jackson and at M.C. Student Center.

## Owen Cooper To Preside

## Leaders Will Study Impact Of Alcohol On American Scene

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — Owen Cooper, Southern Baptist lay leader from Yazoo City, Miss., will preside over a National Conference of Religious and Lay Leaders on the Impact of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse on Contemporary American Life. The conference will be November 26-28 in Indiana Convention Center.

Cooper heads a list of churchmen from 40 denominations and religious groups. They include both clergy and laypersons. Cooper, a retired industrialist, was president of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1973-74.

Jack Anderson, Washington syndicated columnist, is one of several prominent personalities who will address the conference. Anderson's topic will be, "Alcohol and the American Scene."

Harold Hughes, former U. S. Senator from Iowa, also will speak. He was the sponsor of several federal programs on beverage alcohol control while serving in the U. S. Senate.

Another Southern Baptist on the program in addition to Cooper is Foy Valentine of Nashville, executive secretary of the Christian Life Commis-

sion. He is a sponsor of the conference along with Ralph T. Alton, Bishop of the United Methodist Church, Indianapolis.

Cooper said the conference will be primarily for information. "We will seek to make available the best possible information to churches and church leaders, so we can cope with problems related to alcohol and other drugs." He said there is widespread ignorance regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs. "Most Americans do not know where they can get help for themselves or their families when faced with these problems."

Cooper said alcohol and drug problems plague Americans of all ages and all economic and social stations, "both those in the church and those who are not identified with the church." He said it is a national tragedy that churches and church people do not provide more help for people with these problems.

"The church keeps its services too secretive in this area," Cooper said. "Many churches with good counseling programs do not let people know that such help is available. Not one person in six knows where to turn for help for himself or a family member with a drug or alcohol problem."

The November conference is described as a crash course in dealing with alcohol and other drugs problems. Its main purpose is to make church people aware of the need to offer help, and to start them in the right direction of knowing how to give help.



## BMC Begins Fund Drive

BMC BEGINS CHALLENGE FUND DRIVE. Among those attending the Tupelo Area Kickoff Dinner for the Blue Mountain College 1979 Challenge Fund Drive at the Ramada Inn recently were, left to right, RAY GLOVER, pastor of Verona Church; E. HAROLD FISHER, BMC president; JANE TALBERT, team chairman; MARILYN WITCHER, Tupelo area chairman; SANDY COUTOUMANOS, division leader; JAN HARPER, team captain; and DOYCE DEAS, member of BMC board. Goal for the Challenge Fund Drive is \$125,000 by the end of December.



Blue Mountain College Singers at the Tupelo Area Kickoff Dinner were, front row left to right, LUANN FORD of Booneville; ANNETTE OMANA of Caracas, Venezuela; BETH BOWERS of Boynton Beach, Fla.; BOBBY NELL HORTON of Tiptonville; MELODY COOPER of Potts Camp; back row left to right, LESLIE MCINTOSH of Hacienda Heights, Calif.; CINDY MCCOOL of Laurel; KAY DAVIS of Waynesboro; TOMMIE BRITTON of Marion, Ark. and TAMMY MORGAN of Calhoun City. (Photos by Phyllis Harper)

## Homecomings

Evansville Church, Coldwater, will have Homecoming Nov. 18. Wayne King will be guest speaker. Ed Campbell is pastor.

Puckett Church at Puckett will observe Harvest Day on Nov. 18. There will be regular services in the morning, dinner on the grounds at 12:30 p.m., and an afternoon service at 1:45 p.m. A special offering will be taken for building of education and recreation facilities, according to the pastor, Jimmy Carr.

First Church, Lauderdale will celebrate homecoming on Nov. 11. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m. and morning worship at 11. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall. Visiting groups will present special music in the afternoon. Jerry Bishop is pastor.

## Alan Celoria Enters Evangelism

Alan Celoria, music evangelist, has entered full-time evangelism and has formed the Alan Celoria Evangelistic Association, Inc., 364 Sharon Hills Drive, Jackson, MS 39212. He will be

available for revivals and concerts. Celoria was minister of music at First Church, Magnolia, 1969-71, and at Temple Church, Hattiesburg, 1971-74. The phone number is 601-371-1615.

## Southeastern Plans Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

percent from the previous year. He also reported that the school's three-year, \$3.5 million campaign had passed the \$1.2 million level in its first nine months, that all faculty vacancies have now been filled, and that 56 of 100 new student apartments will be completed by October 31.

The most interesting point some preachers make is the stopping point.





### Christian Art Show At Meridian

Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian, sponsored a Christian Art Show recently, coordinated by the minister of activities, Steve Stricklen. In connection with this, during a church worship service, Sam Gore of the Mississippi College Art Department created a "Head of Christ" from clay; Bill Easley sang; and Mrs. Stricklen and Mrs. LaNell Martin presented violin and organ music. These blended with the observance of the Lord's Supper. Gore, right, is pictured with the pastor, James A. Ruffin.

## Church Construction Obstructions Cleared

ATLANTA (BP) — A program to help small churches prepare for volunteer groups who come to construct their buildings has been initiated by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Increasing numbers of projects, as well as the need for better planning on the part of churches wanting to build, have necessitated the program, said Bill Wilson of the board's special mission ministries department.

"Last summer, we assigned about 85 construction groups to churches all across the country, and we'll probably have between 100 and 125 groups in 1980," Wilson said.

"With that many projects handled through the HMB office in Atlanta — often thousands of miles from the churches — communication can fail, resulting in stalled construction efforts," he explained.

"We need to be efficient and provide better coordination between these people," Wilson added. "That means we need to send out trained consultants to work with the churches; give them counsel."

The program will make consultants available free of charge to churches in "new work" areas that plan to build. The consultants will be "mature

Christians who have construction backgrounds and have led at least two volunteer construction groups." Eight of them have been secured, and more are being added.

The program goes into effect Dec. 1, after which churches which request volunteer groups assigned by the Home Mission Board will need to request a visit by a consultant. Consultants also will be available to assist small churches which need guidance but don't need builders.

The Home Mission Board church loans division and the Baptist Sunday School Board architectural department are assisting in the effort.

## Staff Changes

Ralph Kelley became pastor of Crossview Church at Lilburn, Ga. early in October, moving from Hattiesburg. The Georgia native has been pastor of Bellehaven Church in Ocean Springs, Miss., and Green Creek Church in Petal. He is a graduate of Mercer University and New Orleans Seminary.

D'Iberville has called Larry Sweat as pastor. Sweat is a native of Georgia and he has pastored churches in Louisiana and Mississippi. He and his wife Sandra have three children.

Hugh A. Martin has resigned as pastor of Emmanuel Church, Greenville, to become the pastor of the Spring Creek Church in Neshoba County. During his eight years and nine months pastorate of Emmanuel, there were 340 baptisms and 305 other additions; the budget receipts increased from \$51,000 to \$117,000; the church debt was reduced from \$89,000 to less than \$4,000; and more than \$50,000 was spent on missions in the 1978-79 year. Martin's new address is Rt. 3, Box 247, Philadelphia, Miss. 39350, (telephone — 656-3511).

Mt. Zion Church of Lincoln County has called Mike Everett as pastor. He goes to Mt. Zion from Pocahontas Church, Hinds County. They moved on the field Sept. 24, and the next week received a formal welcome and pouncing by the church family. He and his wife, the former Janice Barber of Foxworth, have two children, Amy and Doug. Everett is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. Mrs. Everett is a registered nurse.

### Abortion Statement

## Status Of Fetus Is Theological Issue

WASHINGTON (BP) — Two professors at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and the executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs have endorsed a statement on abortion released in Washington by the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights at the start of the national observance of Abortion Rights Week.

G. Willis Bennett, director of advanced professional studies, Larry McSwain, associate professor of church and community, and James E. Wood Jr. of the Baptist Joint Committee joined about 200 religious leaders in endorsing "A Religious Statement on Abortion: A Call to Commitment." Approximately 20 religious organizations were represented among the signers.

The statement calls for a "strong educational effort" in churches and synagogues as well as better informed counseling for women considering abortion. It also affirms that "ecumenism is a two-way street" and refutes the argument that pro-choice advocates should mute their voices in the interests of continued interreligious cooperation.

In addition, the statement pledges ongoing political action and places the

## Memory Lingers For Belizeans

By Otis W. Brady  
Missionary To Belize  
BELIZE CITY, Belize (BP) — One year ago Belizeans — struggling with the problems of Hurricane Greta — received Southern Baptist assistance. This year, Belizeans themselves are on the giving end.

Members and followers of two new churches in this small country south of Mexico — Ladyville and Calvary Baptist Churches — remembered how "unknown brothers and sisters in Christ" expressed concern for them in their time of distress.

Today, with prayers and deep sympathy for those now suffering from damages from Hurricane David in the Caribbean, the two churches have given \$200 out of their poverty in a special offering for Hurricane David relief.



## McComb Youths Clear Hurricane Debris For Moss Point Widows

Young men from First Church, McComb recently spent a day helping two widows in Moss Point clear their yards following Hurricane Frederic. The work was coordinated by Allen Webb, director of missions for Jackson County; Paul Vandercook, director of the Baptist Seaman Center in Pascagoula; and Athens McNeil, pastor of the Griffin Street Church in Moss Point.

The youths took several boxes of canned goods to be distributed, and spent the day clearing the two yards. One of the women was in a wheel chair and lived alone. The other had a very large tree blown against the back of her home. She was unable to go in or out the back of the house. Young people and their sponsors cut the trees and stacked them away from the house. It was estimated that they saved the widows approximately \$1,500 by removing the trees.

The youth group was led by Mark Seaton, minister of youth and recreation of First Church, McComb. Other sponsors were Keith Starrett and Larry Hicks. The youths were Kevin May, Clay Guy, Eddie Hoff, Craig Jackson, Jeff Jones, Clark Hicks, Mike Clark, Brad Parker, David Tadlock, John Pigott, and Kenny Wicker.

## Vietnamese Church Sponsors Refugees

DALLAS (BP) — A small Vietnamese church of about five families, affiliated with Cliff Temple Baptist Church in Dallas, is sponsoring two Vietnamese families of its own, and hopes to sponsor a refugee family every two or three months.

Daniel Tran, pastor of the church, said most of its members arrived in the United States in 1975.

"All of us agreed that first we were helped by the American Christians. Now we have to help our own people," he said.

The first of the two families arrived Aug. 31, and the Vietnamese church collected enough money to feed the family and rent an apartment for a month. One member found a job for the husband, and Cliff Temple donated some furniture and clothes for the family.

The first few days the family stayed with Pastor Tran, then moved to a motel until an apartment was found that would be rented "to someone who had no credit and no job."

Another family arrived in late September. Although Tran's group hopes to sponsor more refugees, he said they would have to be careful.

"The families that came from Vietnam in 1975 were mostly well-educated and skilled, more so than those coming now. We don't want to have to put them on welfare."

## Peters Leads NW Convention

PORTLAND, Ore. (BP) — William K. Peters, missions director for the Northwest Baptist Convention, will serve as the convention's interim executive director until an eight-person search committee finds a successor for Dan C. Stringer.

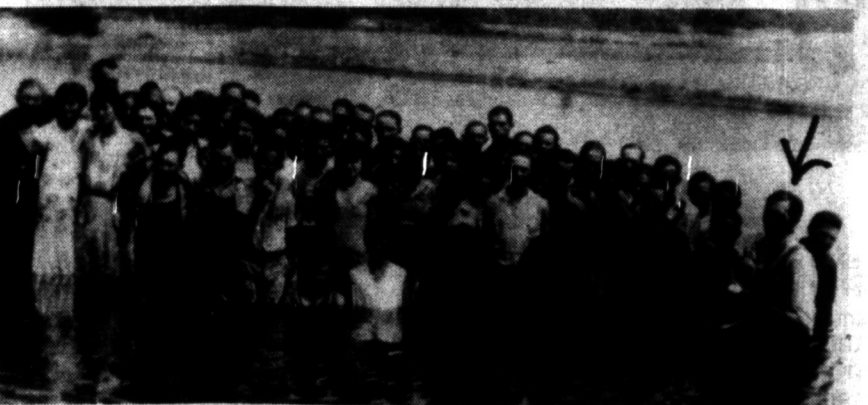
Stringer resigned to accept the chief executive post with the Florida Baptist Convention.

The committee consists of a layman, six pastors and the Northwest Convention's Woman's Missionary Union president. Hugh Boring, a Boeing Aircraft executive from Bellevue, Wash., will chair the committee.

It is my principle that the will of the majority should always prevail. — Jefferson — Letter, 1787

## Revival Results

Clarke Street Church, New Albany: October 21-27; Leon Emery, director, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist, Oct. 21-24; six professions of faith; 13 rededications; Shannon Burns, music director; Jimmy Russell, Leonard Howell, Marvin Cox, evangelists, Oct. 25-27; C. C. Ard, pastor.



George Pitts, on far right, holding the handkerchief, baptized 63 people in one outdoor service, into the membership of the Liberty Church, Monroe County. This photo, made in the 1920's, has been published in various books and articles through the years since then.

## Tribute To George Pitts, Pastor "Who Baptized The Most People"

By Nava Young

Down through the years Liberty Church, Monroe County, has been blessed with many wonderful men of God as pastors. This spring, May 9, 1979, George Pitts, one of the greatest of these men of God, died. The church would like to pay tribute to him for he was known as the man who baptized the most people into Liberty Baptist Church.

In one outdoor baptismal service in the 1920's (see photo) Brother Pitts baptized 63, many of whom are still living, and many of whom are part of this writer's family.

Pitts, 87, was born Sept. 20, 1891. A life fully dedicated to winning souls to Christ has ended. But he will always live in the hearts of the many people who remember how he preached God's word in brush arbores, under shade trees, in the homes of people, in the churches, or wherever possible.

In the early 1880's, a small group of dedicated people organized and built Liberty, a small church which stood as a beacon to the lost and a comfort for the Christian people for many miles around, and today still serves as a dedicated country church. Tommy Whaley is the present pastor.



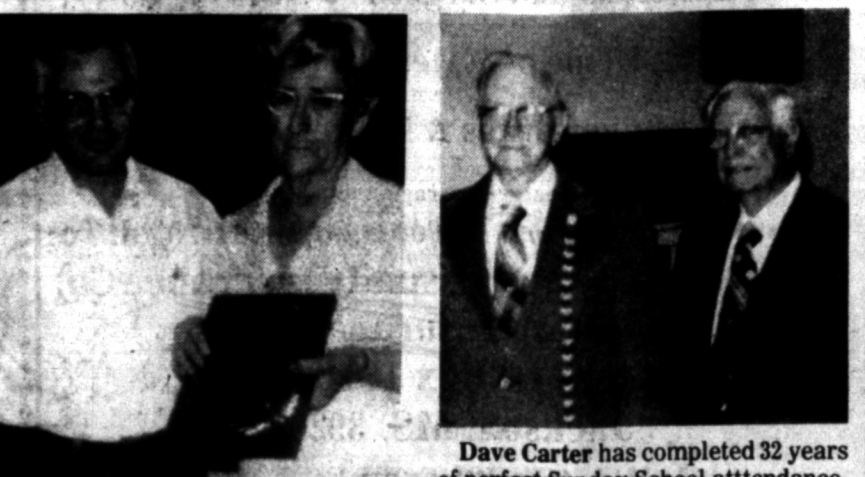
DEWITT PICKERING celebrated his tenth anniversary on Oct. 1, as minister of music for First Church, Newton. The church on Oct. 7 gave a reception honoring him and his family. Hardy Denham, pastor, presented a love offering given by members of the church. Left to right are Della Pickering, Mrs. Pickering, Neil Pickering, the minister of music, and the pastor.



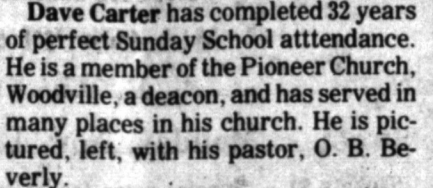
ROBERT BRISCOE was ordained as a deacon at Clear Creek Church on Sept. 23, in Lafayette Association. T. E. BRISCOE, Chairman of Clear Creek deacons and Robert's father, presented a certificate of ordination. Kenneth McMillen presented Mr. and Mrs. Robert Briscoe with the books THE MINISTRY OF THE DEACON by Howard Foshee and ON BECOMING A DEACON'S WIFE by Martha Nelson. ARTHUR LESLIE, director of missions for Marshall-Lafayette Association, delivered the charge to the church and Kenneth McMillen, pastor, delivered the charge to the candidate. Left to right are Leslie, Briscoe and his father, and McMillen.



CHARLES R. WALLER was licensed Sept. 9 by the Clear Creek Church (Lafayette) to preach the gospel. He is available for supply, youth revival, or other pulpity duty. He is also an artist and chalk talk speaker. His address is Route 2, Oxford, Ms 38655. (Phone 601-234-6087). Left to right, above: Kenneth McMillen, pastor; Waller, and his father, Charles L. Waller.



Lowrey Creek Church, Seminary honored Mrs. Harrison H. Bush with an ice cream supper, in dedication of 58 years of service. She is now attending Calvary Church, Purvis. She has served as Sunday School teacher and Bible School worker. She was presented a gold-lettered dedication plaque by John L. Riles, pastor, left.



Jimmy Davis, former governor of Louisiana, will speak at Pass Road Church, Gulfport, Nov. 25.

Mrs. Joy Morgan Davis of Dallas, Texas, reviewer, dramatist, and lecturer, will visit the campus of Mississippi College on Friday, Nov. 9, to present a dramatic reading entitled "The Gospel According to Broadway" at the annual meeting of the Library Associates at 3 p.m. in the Leland Speed Library. The



presentation will mark her first professional appearance at MC, her alma mater. Last year she filled 90 speaking engagements for book clubs, forums, and church women. She is the daughter of Mrs. Kate Durham Morgan of Jackson.

On Nov. 11, Sunday night at 7 p.m. Mrs. Davis will present a dramatization of Frank Slaughter's book, The Thorn of Arimathea, at Woodland Hills Church, Old Canton Road, Jackson. Both presentations are open to the public. There will be no admission charge.

Rock Hill Church near Brandon recently licensed Mark Dearman to the gospel ministry. He is one of the five children of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Dearman of Rt. 2, Brandon. A graduate of Brandon Public School and Hinds Junior College, he is now enrolled at Mississippi College. The Rock Hill pastor is Philip McElhenny.

Martha Nelson, pastor's wife at Pelahatchie Church, was the guest speaker at Calvary, Jackson's WMU meeting Nov. 6 at 9:30 a.m. On program with Mrs. Nelson were Mrs. Clyde Nettles, First Church, Brandon, and Mrs. Teresa Sheppard, Bethel Church, Brandon. These two women went with Mrs. Nelson on a Share-A-Skill mission to the Caribbean recently. Mrs. Nelson is coordinator for Caring Touch, which works out travel arrangements for lay involvement in missions activities. Mrs. Sara Richardson is WMU director at Calvary.

Dewey Tillman Stalvey, Jr. was licensed to the ministry at Calvary Church, Meridian, on Oct. 21. He was born in Waycross, Ga. He attended Meridian Junior College and Mississippi State University. Though he and his family moved to Gainesville, Fla. from Meridian, he returned to Calvary, Meridian, to preach his first sermon and receive his license. On one occasion Stalvey accompanied the Calvary pastor, Otis Seal, on a crusade in South India.

Brenda S. T. Rudolph of Ocean Springs has earned the Ministry of Education Diploma from the Seminary Extension Home Study Institute, Nashville. The diploma was presented Nov. 4 at Woodhaven Church by Curtis I. Miller, pastor. Mrs. Rudolph is a member of Woodhaven Church, Ocean Springs, where she has served as Study Course secretary, adult ladies Sunday School teacher, outreach leader, organist, and GA director. She is also the Jackson County GA director.

Mrs. Rudolph completed a series of 16 courses in earning the Ministry of Education Diploma. The Home Study Institute is a section in the Seminary Extension Department of the Southern Baptist seminaries. Although designed primarily for pastors, the courses are available to other Christians desiring college level courses in the Bible and other subjects normally included in a theological curriculum.

Abner McCall, president of Baylor University, was featured speaker during the recent Spell Lectureship at Mississippi College. The Spell Lectureship was established by Howard Spell and his wife as an endowed lectureship to bring outstanding speakers to campus each year to share Christian and intellectual points of view with the college community.



# Just for the Record . . .

# Revival Still Strong, Korean Pastors Say

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7  
Thursday, November 8, 1979



WILLOW GROVE CHURCH, Covington County, celebrated its homecoming Oct. 14. The guest preacher for the occasion was George King, a former pastor, now of Birmingham, Alabama. Special guests were two charter members of Willow Grove. The church was 72 years old October 13, 1979. Two women who have served the church for its entire 72-year history and are still active are Mrs. Will (Ada) Lee and Mrs. Allen (Myrtis) Pickering. From left, Tre Carter, minister of music and youth, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Pickering and Pastor Gary R. Lightfoot.



Chester Burns, associate director of the Institute for Medical Humanities at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, is guest lecturer for a December 4 seminar for clergy and health professionals at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

The program, religion and medicine in 20th century America, will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the UMC Oglevee Building Auditorium.

The program is sponsored by the University Hospital Department of Pastoral Services, the Medical Center Division of Continuing Health Professional Education and the UMC History of Medicine Society. James L. Travis is director of pastoral services at the Medical Center, and Donald K. Dinsmore is the department's associate director.

Advance registration for the program is requested. Registration fee is \$20. Students may attend for a \$10 fee. For more information, contact the Division of Continuing Health Professional Education, University of Mississippi Medical Center, 2500 North State Street, Jackson, MS 39216. (601) 987-4914.

Homecoming at Turnpike Church in Pontotoc County was observed on Sept. 30. L. S. Hearn, former pastor, brought the message. Three special groups of singers performed. Approximately 350 people were present for the all day affair.

In the last 22 months that Jerry Glover has been pastor of the small country church 35 members have been added. Turnpike has five generations of members living represented in one family. They are Mrs. Laura Douglas, the oldest living member, Mrs. Virgie McGregor, Mrs. Steen Self, Keith Self, and Christy Self, the youngest member.

Gulf Gardens Church has been given a Hammond chord organ and a video tape player.

McHenry, First Church, now has its pastor, Russell Bradford, living on the field. A trailer has been purchased and placed on the property.

First, Wiggins had a Brotherhood Benefit Dinner, at which the students at the Barbados College are getting approximately \$300 to provide adequate lighting for study.

## Conference On Aging Spring, 1980

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP) — Eight Southern Baptist organizations are joining forces to sponsor the second Conference on Aging April 28-May 2, 1980, at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center here.

Trends and needs in church ministries with older persons will be a focus of the four-day conference for pastors, church staff members and lay leaders of senior adults.

Participants also will include representatives from the sponsoring organizations — Southern Baptist Annuity Board, Sunday School Board, Home Mission Board, Brotherhood Commission, Christian Life Commission, Woman's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Southern Baptist Association of Ministries with the Aging.

In addition to workshops on aging issues, conference participants will draft recommendations for possible submission to programmers of the 1981 White House Conference on Aging and to denominational agencies, according to W. L. Howse III, conference coordinator and director of the Hurt Gerontology Center, Culpeper, Va.

Total cost for the conference, including registration, room and meals, is \$115.25, based on double occupancy. An advance registration fee of \$25 should be mailed to Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, Box 28, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770, a spokesman said.

## Ballenger Resigns As President At Ruschlikon

RUSCHLIKON, Switzerland (BP) — Southern Baptist missionary Isam E. Ballenger has resigned as president of the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, effective April 30, 1980.

The action came during a seminary executive board meeting in Ruschlikon. It followed a period of more than two years when Ballenger was both seminary president and Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board field representative. In the latter capacity, he served as a personal link overseas between Southern Baptist missionaries in Europe and board headquarters in Richmond, Va.

In accepting Ballenger's resignation, the seminary board "acknowledged with understanding" that Ballenger could not continue as seminary president and as field representative on a long range basis.

The board expressed gratitude to Ballenger for "outstanding leadership

given to the seminary during a period of severe financial crisis." It also thanked him for his part in the reduction and reorganization of staff at the seminary and in securing additional financial support. That leadership, the board said, has resulted in progress toward financial stability and increased student enrollment.

The board thanked Mrs. Ballenger "for the many days" she has helped the seminary during the staff reduction period.

The 30-year-old seminary has faced increased financial pressure in recent years as value of the American dollar has declined.

The European Baptist Federation Council agreed about a year ago to accept sponsorship of the financially troubled institution, and an executive board assumed administrative responsibility. Southern Baptists have continued to contribute substantially to the financial solvency of the school.

## Petal-Harvey Church, Petal Will Dedicate New Sanctuary

Petal-Harvey Church, Petal, will dedicate its new building Sunday morning, Nov. 11 with homecoming and celebration of the church's 71st anniversary. Services will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will be guest speaker for the dedicatory service. Mr. and Mrs. Bart Neal, New Orleans Seminary, will present special music. He is registrar at the seminary.

Early in 1977 the church voted to enter a Together We Build program for construction of a sanctuary and educational facility. This new building includes a sanctuary with seating capacity of 800, including the balcony. The left wing of the added education space includes a recreation room with fireplace and snack bar, a prayer room, administrative offices, general office, work room, library, and conference room. The right wing has nine classrooms plus assembly rooms for Adult and Youth departments. Covered walkways and a covered loading drive-in were added.

Instead of a steeple there are three lighted crosses on top of the front entrance, at different heights and turned in different directions. One walking into the sanctuary will see the three crosses in the stained glass window behind the choir loft. The pealing of the chimes can be heard for miles around, during daylight hours.

Petal-Harvey was organized Aug. 6, 1908, with 23 charter members, and was first called the Petal Church. H. W. Shirley was the first pastor.

In 1912 Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Bruce gave one acre of land for the first church building. His brother, Elbert Bruce, built a one-room frame structure. The church had by then grown to 50 members and the name was changed to Petal-Harvey Church.

Eighteen ministers have been

once it gets started," remarked one missionary.

Third is the tremendous response to the gospel itself. The Student Evangelism Department of the Korea Baptist Mission last year registered more than 1,500 first-time decisions for Christ. And within six months 70 percent of those making first-time decisions are united with local Baptist churches.

Another evangelistic thrust which illustrates the continuing response to the gospel in Korea is the work of the Military Evangelism Department. In 1977 and part of '78 the department registered more than 16,000 decisions of various kinds and baptized more than 1,000 men.

Similar results can be found in the work of the film evangelism ministry which registered more than 1,700 decisions last year.

Also showing significant results is the combined Korean-American crusades such as the one planned for 1980 which is being coordinated with the Florida Baptist Convention. "It depends," said one pastor who has had several such meetings in his church, "on how well the church is prepared. If they have prospects lined up and witnessing teams spiritually prepared, then they can't help but reap large, long range results."

Physical and financial growth is also evident among most Baptist churches in Korea today. As missionary Daniel B. Ray pointed out, "All the churches in my association are in the midst of either building or rebuilding."

One example is Kwang Shi Baptist Church. A country church first founded in 1909, it remains the only church in the village of Kwang Shi. Presently it has a membership of about 150 but the budget for 1978 was more than \$10,000, which missionary Ray explained is certainly a "new day in Korea." The church has plans to rebuild and has started four missions in the last 20 years.

licensed or ordained from Petal-Harvey Church, and two licensed to serve in the music and education ministry.

Jerry Henderson has been pastor of the church since 1971. The present resident enrollment is 1096. The Sunday School has an enrollment of 689, the Church Training 249, and the Music Department 278 in its total program. The church has a bus ministry which reaches the elderly of the community, especially convalescent home residents.



Dr. Curtis Vaughan  
Professor of New Testament  
Southwestern Seminary

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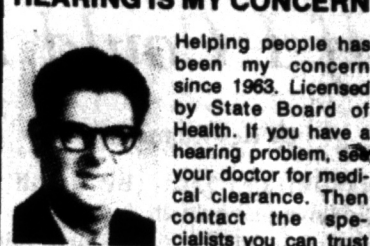
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OFFICERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI CLUB for the 1979-80 year at New Orleans Seminary are, left to right: AL FIKE, vice-president, Leakeville; PEGGY BERRY, secretary, Greenwood; DIANNE THIGPEN, activities chairman, Cleveland; and RICHARD SPENCER, president, Hattiesburg. HAROLD BRYSON is faculty sponsor of the club.



A GA-ACTEEN Recognition Service was held at Juniper Grove Church, Poplarville, on Sept. 30. Front row, GAs, from left: Sue Gipson, Loria Saucier, Rosalind Billiot, Sheila Smith, and Christy Lott. GA's, second row, from left, are Donna Smith, Melissa Smith, Lori Lenoir, Cindy Terrell, Sharon T aylor, and Judy Smith. Back row, from left: Acteen leader, Mrs. Annie Smith; Acteens, Imogene Clark, Carol Allen, Angie T aylor, Lawanda Cuevas, Donna King, Acteen leader, Melba Smith; and GA leader, Dianne Saucier.



ASHLAND CHURCH, Ashland, was the setting recently for the musical drama, "Down by the Creek Bank" by the combined children's choirs. Directors were Dean Hamilton, Martha Mitchell, and Sandra Wilburn. Puppeteers Eddie Gray, Bill Renick, Tammy Snyder, Stephanie Stroupe, added to the program. Roy Hamilton is pastor. Ed Sudduth is associate pastor and minister of music.



OAK FOREST, JACKSON's Girls in Action, Grades 3-6, had a GA Enlistment Circus of Fun Sept. 12, as kickoff night for the new church year.



# SCRAPBOOK

## DAYBREAK

"There IS no God!" In the deep vale of blasphemy,  
Stumbling on byways of evil and pain,  
He, the misguided, reviled the Creator  
As blindly he floundered in slushes profane.

Then, on the hilltop, the radiant morning,  
Spreading its mantle of flame in the skies,  
Fringed the dark rim with a rose-spray so beauteous  
The wanderer marveled in silent surprise.

"IS there a God?" asked the man in the shadows,  
As from the mire he withdrew his soiled feet.  
Down from the slope, like a token from heaven,  
Wafted a fragrance, impelling and sweet.

Thorns lurked on the way, and the climber grew weary;  
But the stains were removed by the dew and the stone  
As strongly he forged up the arduous hillside  
Toward the high crest and the beckoning dawn.

Birds sang him cheer; brooks sparkled with gladness;  
All nature gave treasures of freedom and youth;  
Trees lent their strength; flowers lavished their beauty:  
Unfolding before him the wonderful truth.

Once briefly he lingered, in penitent sorrow  
Looking down on the waste where he formerly trod;  
Then he, the reclaimed, viewed the glorious summit  
And fervently murmured, "Yes! There IS a God!"

—Howard M. Ates

## A Day Of Rest

I have sat in an invalid's chair,  
rocking to pace a reluctant heart  
while a great voice sang the Lord's  
prayer.

on stereo, and a sabbath-quiet thought  
followed the old rugged cross. Surely  
that stony human being simply ought  
to answer my prayer himself, my plea.  
The person who tore up my world  
should simply put it back for me.

Perhaps the slowest reply God ever  
yields

is to the prayer that begins like —  
Make him, make her do my will, your  
will,

or come in, from sinful fields.

Window-framed red leaves on twigs of  
oak

rode autumn's breeze, but 'the crisp  
and fallen

lay heaped unraked; and with one  
stroke,

I wished, I could sweep the yard clean,  
down to the grass I knew was still  
green.

Yet how lovely, tender, gentle, how  
dear

is a day of rest in the fall of the year.

—Violet Tackett

## "If I Could Have Just Held On. . ."

By Rex Hammock

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) — "If I could have just held on."

Like a recurring nightmare, this thought, says ministerial student Roger Kelsey, has tormented him since September 30 when a young suicide victim slipped from Kelsey's grasp and fell to his death in the Cumberland River.

The victim, a man in his early 20s who has not yet been identified, dangled some 15 seconds over the railing of the Six-by-Avenue Bridge in Nashville, Tenn., before shaking loose from Kelsey's hand.

Kelsey, a religion major at Belmont College, a Baptist school, was driving back to school Sunday night with his fiancée Phyllis Williams after delivering the last sermon in a weekend revival at Fatherland Baptist Church. Crossing the river, they saw a slightly built young man standing on a pipe over the bridge's railing.

"At first I thought that somebody had already jumped in," he recalled the next day. "I thought the man on the railing was going to jump in after someone."

Kelsey stopped his car to see what was happening.

"As I was walking over to the man, another man rushed up to him and grabbed his arm. It was then that I realized what was happening so I ran those last few steps."

"As I got to him, he broke loose from the other guy. I had just grabbed his arm when he let his feet slip from the pipe he was standing on. He started jerking and after a few seconds got loose of me."

"As he was going down, he spread out so that he fell flat into the water."

"Ironically," said Kelsey, "I preached a sermon on suicide among young people at the revival on Friday night. I told the congregation that suicide is the third largest cause of death among people ages 17 to 24. That

fact has certainly come home to me."

Kelsey, a member of Lockeland Baptist Church, expressed regret at not being able to try and talk the man out of jumping.

"Sometimes I feel that I should have been able to pull him up. At other times I am mad at the first man who rushed at him."

Kelsey says that his pastor at Lockeland Church, Herbert Higdon, is helping him to work through his "mixed emotions."

Admitting that he is confused that "God would allow me to be there and not be able to save the man's life," Kelsey, however, feels that the tragedy has given him "a stronger commitment to preaching and witnessing."

"Jesus Christ was this man's answer to what caused him to get on that bridge. And the sad thing is that for everyone that jumps off a bridge, there are thousands more dealing with the same problems."

## Schools Reopen

### At Sanyati

GWelo, Zimbabwe Rhodesia (BP) — Sanyati Baptist schools, closed by guerrillas in Zimbabwe Rhodesia at the end of the first term, have reopened in a new location with almost 95 percent of the previous students enrolled.

The schools reopened for the second term using five churches in the area of Cam and Motor Mine for classrooms, according to Ralph L. Rummage, chairman of the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Zimbabwe Rhodesia. Students live with relatives or friends in Cam and Motor Mine or in Gatooma, the major town nearest Sanyati.

Although the Baptist hospital at Sanyati is still operating under local Baptist leadership, Southern Baptist missionaries moved off the compound following the guerrilla murder of Southern Baptist missionary Archie G. Dunaway Jr.

## First, Grenada

### Will Present

### Womach In Concert

Merrill Womach, gospel soloist and recording artist from Spokane, Wash., will be featured in a concert Nov. 11, at First Church, Grenada, at 7 p.m.

On Thanksgiving Day in 1961, Merrill barely escaped with his life from a fiery plane crash in which he was burned beyond recognition. As a result he has undergone 52 major skin graft operations.

He has risen above adversity through a strong faith and has encouraged others through personal appearances and radio and television performances.

He is the first to produce multiple stereophonic recordings. Through a series of recordings of his own voice singing the various parts, he sings duets, trios, quartets and a 42 voice precision made chorus. In concert he sings an additional part with these groups.

Following the concert there will be a reception for Womach in the church fellowship hall.

Womach will speak at noon Nov. 12 to the Rotary Club at the Monte Cristo Restaurant, Grenada. He will be presented in concert at Lakewood Methodist Church at 7 p.m., Nov. 12.



Womach

## Devotional

# Blessed Are The Mourners

By James E. Pugh, Jr., Union Church, Meridian, Pastor  
Matthew 5:4

"Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." The search for happiness is the primary motive of much of the world's living. The trend of modern Christianity has also been to make happiness the primary appeal to the unsaved for conversion. The Bible has much to say about Christian joy, but it also reveals that one of the most important aspects of man's relationship to God is mourning.

First, there must be mourning over personal sin. It is absolutely necessary for salvation, being basic in repentance. As the natural man is proud, self-confident and unashamed, so he must come to be broken and ashamed before God. Jeremiah confessed that he was ashamed and confounded because of his sin (Jer. 31:19).

Job said, "I abhor myself and repent in dust and ashes." Repentance has been described as "the sinner giving up all pretense of goodness and taking his place at the feet of God as an utterly lost, wicked, hell-deserving sinner whose only hope is that the Lord will pardon and forgive him for Christ's sake." Every truly repentant sinner will mourn in his heart over sin.

Mourning is also necessary in sanctification. The greatest hindrance to Christ-likeness is always ourselves. We must be humbled and broken over and over again. If the inward life of God is to come forth, then the outward man of self must be broken.

Mourning over the sins of the church, the nation and the world is a part of our identification with the Saviour. Jesus wept over sin and unbelief. God is searching for those who share His feelings for sinners. Who afflicts his soul with fasting and midnight watches? Who groans and sighs today? If we are to be truly useful to God, we must enter into His sorrow over sin.

Every Christian will have the joy of the Lord, but he must also come to know what it is to mourn.

## "March" In Venezuela Ends

### With 1,000 New Converts

By Veda Rae Lozuk

VENEZUELA (BP) — The impact of more than 1,000 new Christians is being felt throughout eastern Venezuela following Baptists' third month-long "evangelistic march" here.

In one instance, Southern Baptist missionaries Eugene and Eva Nell Kimler, back from furlough and looking for a house in which to begin a mission in the city of Cumana, found themselves with 29 new Christians before they could locate a meeting house.

The "march," led by Francisco Aular, evangelism director for the National Baptist Convention of Venezuela, involved 120 volunteers divided into teams working in person-to-person evangelism from door to door in 16 towns. The volunteers made 2,214 contacts, resulting in 1,010 professions of faith in Jesus Christ. The team enlisted new converts to join in the march.

A total of 658 people are receiving instruction as new believers. One mission, led by a young layman in El Tigre, has 27 in its instruction classes.

For years Venezuelan Baptists have had a goal of preaching the gospel in this vast area, far from the central plains which were the cradle of Baptist work in the country.

As a student in Venezuela's Baptist Theological Seminary, Aular said he received during prayer meetings a vision of Venezuelan towns and cities with no knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Combining these impressions, he led the convention in its first evangelistic march in 1976; two years later, he directed a similar movement in western Venezuela.

"Next year, with the Lord's help, the marchers will evangelize in places throughout the country that were left out of the two previous years," he said. "In 1981, the big push will be to evangelize the capital city of Caracas, with its more than 3.5 million people."

(Veda Rae Lozuk is Southern Baptist missionary press representative for Venezuela.)

Obstinacy and vehemency in opinion are the surest proofs of stupidity. — Bernard Barton

## Life and Work Lesson

### The God Who Acts

### On Our Behalf

By W. Thomas Baddley  
First Church, Brandon  
Exodus 3:19-14

These passages from Exodus fit together into a lesson which stands on its own and also fits into the overarching theme of this unit, "God Making Himself Known." On its own, this lesson is an illustration of God dealing with mankind with and through a man, Moses. As a part of the whole, it continues the "unveiling" of God, by God, as He lets mankind understand more of their need to follow His way.

Since this is a brief unit, the lesson has "leap-frogged" from Jacob to Moses. The assumption is that we know the often-told story of the migration to Egypt to escape the famine and the story of Joseph's rise to public recognition. From honored guests to slaves, the status of the visiting Israelites changed with the passing of leadership to a new Pharaoh who didn't know Joseph.

Most of the chosen people of God accepted their lot in life, and, though oppressed and unhappy, went on day by day. One man, however, who God had prepared with special upbringing, rebelled, killed an Egyptian taskmaster and was forced to flee. Thus, we come to find mighty Moses as the shepherd. Moses, raised in Pharaoh's palace, had been temporarily reduced to taking care of smelly sheep on the backside of a mountain in a foreign land.

**I. God Acting To Redeem (Exodus 3)**  
In the unlikely location of a pasture on the back side of the desert on Mount Horeb, God had a holy place. It was "set apart" for the purpose of dealing with Moses. God's choice, to lead in the redemption of His people from Egyptian bondage. From a "burning" bush, God called to Moses. As he reacted in fear, God identified Himself as the same God who had covenanted with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

As Moses listened (and squirmed) to God's call to him, God also explained His purpose. The God of creation who had made the world and placed man in it, the God who periodically dealt with individual human leaders, now stated that He knew of the affliction of His people.

Be sure that you pick up the implications of the possessive pronoun in 3:7. Just as God had promised those previous leaders, He had faithfully kept track of the well-being of His people. The situation in which they now found themselves was not to be desired, but God had not deserted them. In fact, now God's plan was to deliver them, to redeem them from bondage using Moses as leader.

Moses was a prepared vessel. God had providentially prepared him with 40 years in Pharaoh's court, learning organization, leadership and government. Forty more years of life in Midian familiarized him with the area through which he would lead the people for yet a third forty year period.

Realizing that he would not only have to gain Pharaoh's approval, but also the "fellowship" of the people of Israel, Moses questioned God as to the methods and message he might use. As a basis of authority, God, for the first time in recorded history, identified Himself by name. The previous patriarchs had not known God by name (v. 14). The interpretation of the name, "I AM WHAT I AM," gives us many ideas about God. Primarily, it identifies God as a God of presence, active in the world now.

Having revealed His name, God again called Moses to perform His mission. The call eventually led to the Exodus and the journey to Canaan. As the Hebrew people review their history, this episode and the resulting Exodus is a pivotal point. It records for all mankind that God is a caring, redeeming God, actively involved in the affairs of individuals and nations.

### II. God Acting For Relationship (Exodus 19:1-6)

In his book, DISCOVERING THE BIBLICAL WORLD, Harry Thomas Frank gives a vivid description of the approach to Mt. Sinai: "The multi-colored granite hills sparkle in the bright sun and the occasional scrub bush serves to reinforce the starkness. And it is quiet. Little lives in this place, and the stillness is extraordinary. Suddenly the seemingly endless ravines give way to a plain, beyond which an awe-inspiring mountain of

red granite rises 2,600 feet above the plateau. This is Sinai."

In only three months (v. 1), God had led His people from Egypt to Sinai. God had led His people from the position of slaves to be His special chosen redeemed people. They now camped at Sinai where they would remain for almost a year. They came as a band of expatriated slaves. They left as a nation bound together under God with a mutual purpose and responsibility.

As the people camped, Moses went up to the mountain to meet God. God spoke to Moses, reaffirming Moses' position as leader of this embryonic nation, but more important God reaffirmed the covenant with His people.

There are at least two things we need to see in these brief verses:

1. God reached out to man in establishing the relationship at Sinai. The way they then (and we now) related to God was by God's grace and mankind's obedience.

2. Whereas, before God has promised blessings to be poured out upon this people, now He promises blessings to be poured out through them, too. From this time forward the people would not only be the recipients in a vertical relationship between themselves and God, but also God's "holy nation," "a kingdom of priests" representing God and pointing others toward Him in a horizontal relationship.

God reminded them of what He had already done for them and offered more if they would only "obey" and "keep."

Today God promises to us a special relationship with Him, adoption into His holy family if we will obey, by trusting in Jesus for our salvation.

God acted to redeem us in the giving of His Son, Jesus. He acts for relationship as He offers us forgiveness and inclusion. He is a God of the present, continuing to act on our behalf.

New York (EP) — Although the full cost of the pope's visit to the United States will not be known for some time, it appears that the total will run at least \$10 million — \$7 million in municipal costs for the six host cities and another \$3 million in diocesan outlays.

## Uniform Lesson

### Breaking Down Barriers

By Ed North, First, Quitman  
Ephesians 2:11-22

Robert Frost contends, "Something there is that doesn't love a wall. . . . And, in a sense, the poet is right. There is a force of love and good will in the world dedicated to breaking down dividing walls. But, it is sadly true that

"something there is that does love a wall." Witness the barrier in Berlin, the Iron Curtain, the Bamboo Curtain, the buffer zones in the Middle East, the religious-political lines drawn in Northern Ireland, the tribalism of Africa, etc. Something in the human condition seems to demand walls.

Jesus came to break down barriers between God and man, and, consequently, between man and man. Paul's eloquent statement of the reconciling work of Christ in the focal passage is rich beyond description. Only a word-by-word study can do it justice. Precluded from such an approach by space limitations, I hope to capture the flavor of the passage under three thematic headings.

### I. A Harmony

Perhaps no enmity in all of history has been more bitter, more deeply rooted, more far reaching than the enmity between Jew and Gentile. When Paul wrote these words Jews believed Gentiles were created as fuel for the fires of hell. To enter a Gentile house was to be made unclean. A Jew was forbidden by law to aid a Gentile mother in the hour of birth because that simply brought another Gentile into the world. The "middle wall of partition" (v. 14) literally refers to the wall between the Court of the Gentiles and the Court of the Women in the Temple complex. A Gentile could not go beyond this barrier upon penalty of death. The contempt and alienation were complete.

On the other hand, the Gentiles were equally disdainful of the Jews. The rite of circumcision was repulsive to a people who gave special honor to the physical body. In the Gentile world only two classes of men were recognized: Greek and barbarian (cf. Rom. 1:14). Anyone whose language was not Greek was considered to be little more than an animal.

The wall was built tall and strong; the lines of division were clearly and deeply drawn. No division among men

today can surpass it. Can you grasp, then, the enormity of the victory which Paul announces? The wall of partition has been broken down! The gap has been bridged! The breach has been healed!

How has such a marvelous thing been achieved? "He is our peace. . . ." (v. 14). The Greek term for peace means joined together. The reconciling work of Christ upon the cross (vv. 13, 15-16) has joined together the alienated and separated. The intensive use of the pronoun insists that "He Himself is our peace." Not only has our peace been achieved through his work on the cross, but it is resident in him. The intent of the Greek is to say that peace is present only when He is present. Apart from him it does not exist.

What is the issue of this peace? A "new man" (v. 15) — a new kind of man. A Jew is still a Jew, and a Gentile is still a Gentile. This third order of man — this Christian — transcends all the old distinctions. What he possesses is more important than being "Gentile in the flesh" or "Circumcision in the flesh" (v. 11). External of race, creed, color, national origin fade before the oneness men share in Christ. Evangelism and world missions have more to do with world peace than summit meetings and SALT treaties. Apart from Christ men are at enmity. Only in him are we joined together.

### II. A Home

Look at the terms! Aliens! Strangers! Foreigners! Far off! The Gentiles did not belong spiritually. Separated from God, they did not even have access to the "commonwealth of Israel" (v. 12) and its incumbent promises from God.

But now, through the redeeming, reconciling life, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Gentiles have been "made nigh" (v. 13). Look at the terms! Fellow citizens with the saints! Household of God! Built together! No longer aliens and strangers, the Gentiles have been brought into a community of faith as full members of the household of God. They have a home!

But, please do not miss the dual result of Christ's work. The Jews needed to be brought into the same community of faith. Jesus preached peace to "those who were nigh," as well as to those who "were afar off." So, that both the Jew and the Gentile, by be-

coming a "new man," has found a home (vv. 17-22).

Is there a sweeter, more meaningful word in the languages of men than "home"? What pleasant images it evokes! Is there a greater joy in life than being a part of God's family? We are blessed beyond measure to share the love, acceptance, and support of our brothers and sisters in Christ. There is one Father of the Christian family, and the most precious blessing of all is to have access to Him (v. 18).

### III. A Hope

"... having no hope, and without God in the world" (v. 12) is the epitaph written across the Golden Age of Greece, and the final judgment upon the outwardly brilliant Roman Empire. These famous civilizations perished, were reduced to ruins and artifacts, because they were without God and without hope.

This phrase is also a succinct summary of modern man. In this secularistic, materialistic world men are living lives of desperation. They know not God, and they have no hope.

Perhaps you recall a recent TV documentary of a county in California. It is a topographical paradise; the setting is breathtaking. It is a financial paradise: country clubs, mansions, and yachts abound. It is a pleasure paradise; every sort of leisure activity is available. And yet the divorce and suicide rates are twice the national average. Here are people who have arrived, according to the world's standards, but are still desperate for something to make them happy. One interviewer said, "We have gained it all, and it is not enough."

To be without God is to be without hope, and life is empty. Praise be to God, Jesus came to make the Messianic hope real for all people! There burns within the heart of the "new man in Christ" an unquenchable hope. Perhaps the barrier between hopelessness and hope is the most troublesome wall of this generation. Christ has come to break it down.

Prejudice is a great time-saver. It enables one to form opinions without bothering to get the facts.

